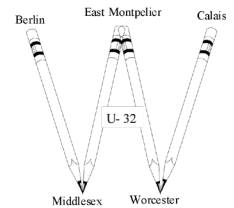


Washington Central Unified Union School District

WCUUSD exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity and power to contribute to their local and global communities.

1130 Gallison Hill Road
Montpelier, VT 05602
Phone (802) 229-0553
Fax (802) 229-2761



WCUUSD
Policy Committee Agenda
November 5, 2025
4:45-6:00 PM
Central Office
1130 Gallison Hill Rd.
Montpelier, VT
Virtual

Virtual Meeting Information

<https://tinyurl.com/48ja9wnr>

Meeting ID: 829 9218 0624

Password: 778549

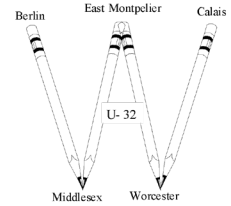
Dial by Your Location: 1-929-205-6099

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Minutes of 10.8.25 – pg. 2
3. Review [Policy Workplan](#) - pg. 5
4. Policies for Review (Discussion/Action)
 - 4.1. [VSBA recommended D23 – \(Library selection and review procedures\)](#)
 - 4.1.1. [Challenges and Complaints to School Curriculum Materials](#)
 - 4.2. [B31 Educator Supervision and Evaluation](#) (policy not required, nor recommended by VSBA)
 - 4.3. Animals in School Policy ([Irvine Admin Regulations](#), [Animals in school information](#))
 - 4.4. [C50 Comprehensive Sexual Health Services](#) (policy not required, nor recommended by VSBA)
 - 4.5. [C9 Nutrition & Wellness \(AOE Recommended Version\)](#)
 - 4.6. AI Policy- Tabled for Workgroup to Review
5. Future Agenda Items
 - 5.1. Next Meeting: December 3, 2025
6. Adjourn

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WCUUSD
Policy Committee
October 8, 2025
4:45-6:00 PM

Present: Superintendent Dellinger-Pate, Ursula Stanley, Chris McVeigh, Natasha Eckart, Ursula Stanley, Flor Diaz Smith, Amy Molina

- 1. Call to Order:** Chris McVeigh called the meeting to order at 4:58 p.m.
- 2. Approve Minutes of 9.3.25:** Natasha Eckart moved to approve the minutes of September 3, 2025. Seconded by Ursula Stanley, this motion carried unanimously.
- 3. Review Policy Work plan:** There may be some adjustments to the work plan based on tonight's work. Stephen Dellinger-Pate stated that AI would be on the next month's meeting agenda.
- 4. Policies for Review:** Chris McVeigh asked whether the committee should consider the Supreme Court's decision to allow students to opt out of school/ curriculum due to religious reasons. Stephen Dellinger-Pate stated that he believes this is still developing and it is premature to create a policy. Still considering "What does the opt out look like?" "When does it need to occur?" There are currently opt outs in place, e.g. around sex education. Do we have to provide a separate learning environment for a child who opts out? Are they provided a separate curriculum? Chris McVeigh stated that it is not a matter of not allowing it; it is a matter of how to manage it. Stephen Dellinger-Pate stated considerations:
 - Age of child
 - Is the curriculum advocating a position?We are not asking students to change their beliefs; we are asking them to argue or debate a belief. You can teach; you cannot advocate for a certain position. It is a 2025 ruling; Chris McVeigh indicated that it could be setting a framework for going forward. Natasha Eckart stated that if we already have procedures in place allowing parents to opt out for whatever reason, she would hesitate to create policy. General consensus around New England is that we do not want to create a policy. Maine, in some smaller areas, have created policies.

Stephen Dellinger-Pate: Library Materials Policy, Instructional Materials, we do not have curricular policies - it may be something to consider to adopt a broader policy around curriculum. If someone has a problem with a piece of curricular material due to religious reasons, he would direct them to one of these policies. Chris McVeigh suggested a procedure so that folks know their rights and the school knows the way forward. Superintendent Dellinger-Pate stated that it might be as simple as strengthening what we currently have in place for sex ed. The verbiage is “sincerely held religious beliefs.” Superintendent Dellinger-Pate stated that it is important to be able to say: If a parent had an issue, here is the process to follow. Amy Molina suggested putting language in the student handbook and on the district website.

- 4.1. B8 Electronic Communication between Employees and Students:** Stephen Dellinger-Pate stated that we have a policy that is in place that is not as comprehensive as the law at this time. He stated that AOE is planning to bring out a model policy. He noted that the law always trumps school policy. Amy Molina noted that AOE has until January 1 to create a model policy. Both, use of social media and cell phone usage will likely be included in the policy. (From Act 72). Text messaging and use of snapchat, Facebook cannot be used; school email is to be used; this way it can be archived. A team can still have an IG account (some discussion of use of roster) as long as it is not used as a means of communication, requiring students to use it. Such an IG account has to be school approved. The policy will not be updated at this time, will wait for the AOE model policy; the recommendation is that procedures be in place.
- 4.2. C20 Student Conduct and Discipline VSBA Model Policy C15 replaces C20, Revised C15:** Stephen Dellinger-Pate had shared a revised C15 for the board to consider. Weapons Policy is C5. Stephen Dellinger-Pate noted some of the changes in this revised policy. Ursula Stanley asked should we include language ensuring a regular review from the board. Within the policy, do we want something that indicates that the superintendent or designee reviews to be sure that procedures are current and appropriate? Natasha Eckart - is there something in place right now that reviews procedures generally? Policy A30 addresses this. The committee might strengthen the language around “Procedures” within this. We will put this on a future agenda. Is there a midpoint between expel and suspension up to ten days? Superintendent Dellinger-Pate and Amy Molina explained that anything beyond ten days and up to 90 is considered “expulsion.” We purposely did not spell out suspension and expulsion in this updated policy. Committee members spoke about the desire to change the perception that expulsion is “forever.” Typically, the administration will ask for expulsion with a re-entry plan. This re-entry plan will be included in procedures. Could we use a term like “long term suspension”? Amy thinks not. Natasha Eckart- within the procedure could we be more specific about the meaning of “expulsion”? The committee agreed to spell out more explicitly in procedures. Chris McVeigh suggested that the language around violation of weapons policy indicate “expulsion” (and use the word “shall”) since suspension is not on the table in this case. How far does the school’s jurisdiction extend regarding misconduct not on school property, on a bus, on another policy at a school related function? Chris McVeigh asked. Some discussion followed. Stephen Dellinger-Pate will make edits based on this discussion and bring this policy to the board at the next meeting.
- 4.3. C45 Bus Discipline:** This policy is up for review. Superintendent Dellinger-Pate did not see any changes needed in this policy except pronoun updates (“their” versus his/ her). Amy Molina suggested referencing the video monitoring policy in this policy and note that audio

can be included in the video on the bus. Stephen Dellinger-Pate will bring this to the board at the next board meeting, with noted edits.

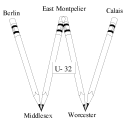
- 4.4. D22 replaced by VSBA required D8:** Our policy D22 includes the procedure in the policy. For the updated D8, would like to take the procedure out and refer to this in the body of the policy. Some discussion followed: Chris McVeigh stated that procedure should not overwhelm policy. Ursula Stanley spoke about the governance of the board - it is our role to develop policy and the administration develops procedure (the board provides oversight.) Natasha Eckart suggested that we be consistent - all policies should either have the procedure within, or have the procedure separate. Stephen Dellinger-Pate indicated that he would prefer the procedures be separate, but that we clearly indicate by chart: policy/ procedure/ report. Reference the Equity policy within the updated D8. This will come to the board for first reading (D22 and D8 melded and shared using redline).
- 4.5. VSBA recommended D23:** Natasha Eckart would like to provide a model policy that VTNEA created for the next meeting, for the committee to compare/ consider.

5. Future Agenda Items

- 5.1.** AI (a group will present)
- 5.2.** D23
- 5.3.** Next Meeting: November 5, 2025

- 6. Adjourn: Ursula Stanley moved; Natasha Eckart seconded, to adjourn.** The committee adjourned by consensus at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Grace, Committee Recording Secretary



BOARD POLICY DEVELOPMENT & MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

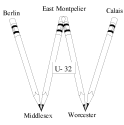
The development and maintenance of school district policies is the central job of school boards. The Vermont statute entitled “Powers of School Boards” lists over twenty-five specific duties delegated to local boards by the General Assembly. The very first responsibility on the list is the duty to “Determine the educational policies of the school district...” ([VT School Boards Association Resource Directory, 2022](#))

One of the standing committees of the Boards of WCUUSD is the Policy Committee. The board selects representatives to the Committee. In addition, three administrators (two local building administrators and one central office administrator) are on the committee. The committee meets once per month to review policies and each year a work plan is established outlining which policies will be reviewed or developed during the school year. Policies are identified for review or development three ways:

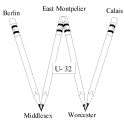
1. Mandatory review/development (State and federal law may require the adoption of new policies or revision of existing board policies and often have a deadline for doing so.)
2. Selected review/development (Board or Policy Committee requests a review ahead of the regular review cycle or identifies a need for a new policy that does not yet exist. The Policy Committee establishes a process for considering requests for policy review that come from the public.)
3. As part of the policy review cycle (Our goal is that all policies are reviewed no less than every five years and policies are reviewed in sequential order.)

As stated in the VSBA reference above, policy is different than procedures. Except when required by law, the Policy Committee generally does not include procedures in policy. Policy implementation and procedure development is the role of the administration. Sometimes guidelines are added to policy to provide guidance to the administration as it develops procedures and implements policy.

All board policies, by state law, must be warned before the board can adopt a new policy, revise and/or repeal an existing policy. This process helps all of the boards to efficiently address their policy governance role. We are continually making improvements to the system.



Month	Goal #1: Educational and Academic Outcomes Goal #2: Broadening Communication with the Community Goal #3: Long Term Planning		
	Mandatory Review/ Development	Selected Review/Development	Policy Review Cycle <i>(sequential order by adoption date - beginning from 2019)</i>
August			
September 3	Work Plan development		
	Act 29: Behavioral Threat Assessment D4: Title I Comparability C47 : Student Exchanges C34 : Use of Restraint & Seclusion (VSBA updated model policy to C70 in 2022) F46: Flag Raising (request from students to modify to every 3 years for a renewal request)		
October 1	Affirm work plan		
	C20 : Student Conduct and Discipline (discussed in 22-23 & committee request admin feedback; VSBA updated in 2022 to C15) C8 Pupil Privacy (Revised 11/4/24 VSBA) C45 : Bus discipline		
November 5	AI (Artificial Intelligence) Policy B32: Educator Supervision and Evaluation Animals in Schools Policy C50 : Comprehensive Sexual Health Services	Policy Sample: https://d2f1dfnoetc03v.cloudfront.net/Files/AI-Policy-Draft_6-18-25.pdf	



December 3	C9 Nutrition & Wellness (AOE has issued a new model policy and replaces the VSBA policy) Triennial Policy Review		
January 7	D1 : Proficiency-Based Graduation Requirements C22 : Student Athletics, clubs and activities		
February 4	D2 : Grade Advancement: Retention, Promotion and Acceleration of Students E46 : Memorials		
April 1	C48 : Foreign Exchange Students		
May 6			
June 3			

Policies to determine next steps

EV Charger Policy

Animals in Schools

VSBA Recommended Policies

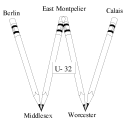
- C22 Student Athletics, Clubs and Activities
- C25 Admission of Non-Resident Tuition Students
- D20 Curriculum Development
- D21 Education Support Systems
- D23 Selection of Instructional Materials
- E21 Distribution of non-school sponsored literature in schools
- F23 Capitalization of assets
- F27 Communicable Disease Mitigation for Students and Staff

B2, B3, B4, B5, B7

C1, C2, C4, C5, C7, C11, C13, C14

D3, D5, D6

E1



F1

Policies Addressed in 25-26

D4: Title I Comparability (reviewed and current policy is retained)

Policies Approved/Revised 24-25

[D24 Creating Learning Environments to Engage in Civil Discourse](#)

[F20](#): Fiscal Management & General Fiscal Accountability (VSBA Recommended policy)

[F45](#): Fundraising

[B41](#): Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Procurement

[B30](#) Staffing and Job Descriptions

Rescinded: [C30](#) Student Medication; **Replaced by** [C71](#) Possession and Administration of Emergency and Non-emergency Medications

[C51](#): Policy of Ensure Safety & Resources for Families Impacted by Immigration Enforcement

[A31](#): Board Member Education

[A32](#): Board Goal Setting & Evaluation

[A34](#): Board Relations with School Personnel

[A24](#): Board Supervision Relationship

Policies Approved/Revised 23-24

F3 Fire and Emergency Preparedness (8.23.23)

F4 Access Control and Visitor Management (8.23.23)

B20 Personnel Recruitment, Selection, Appointment and Background Checks (January)

C6 Home Study Students (November)

C3 Transportation (November)

D22 Instructional & Library Materials Selection (January)

A2 Policies and Procedures (January)

A20 Board Meetings, Agenda Preparation and Distribution (January)

A22 Notice of Non- Discrimination (January)

F26 Security Cameras (January)

Policies Discussed by the Committee - No Actions

School Choice - Board opted not to create a policy

D4-Discussed in February by committee, agreed to send to full board , has not been reviewed by the full board due to budget

Mandatory Review/Newly Revised

E21 Distribution of Non-School Sponsored Literature in Schools (6/5/24 by VSBA) WCUUSD
Does not currently have a policy E21

Policies Removed by VSBA that we have

B31 Educator Supervision and Evaluation (1/12/24)

B30 Staffing and Job Descriptions (10/2/23)