

## JOC Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

January 29, 2025

The team focused on refining policies related to committee meetings, electronic communications, and legal responsibilities, with a particular emphasis on the 2024 regulations and the Sunshine Act. Lastly, they discussed the process of policy review and approval, the need for clear communication, and the potential for sending policies back to the committee for further review.

### Next Steps

- Move policies 249, 103, and 104 back to the first read (including attachments).
- Policy 234 - Pregnant/Married Students, Policy 336 - Personal Necessity Leaves, and Policy 800 - Records Management can be added to the JOC Agenda for the second reading.
- The Title IX policies that were edited by legal counsel will need to go back for the first reading. Pull Policy 247 - Hazing, Policy 252 - Dating Violence, Policy 317.1 - Educator Misconduct, and Policy 824 - Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries, Policy 339 – Uncompensated Leave.
- Update the board meeting agenda to include policies for the second and first readings as discussed.
- Look into policy 103.1 more deeply and consult with legal counsel about its necessity and implications for the JOC. Consult Beth Shore about whether the JOC needs to have policy 103.1. Investigate whether the JOC previously had a policy 103.1 or if it is new. Consult Beth Shore about the Sunshine Act implications for policies on functions, membership, and meetings before putting them up for the first reading.
- Update the policies with the committee's agreed-upon changes before the second reading.
- Review Mr. Nippert's concerns about a policy at the public meeting during the second reading.
- Implement a new process where the policy committee reviews policies twice before they go to the first reading.
- Update the newsletter to include sections for policies being reviewed first time in committee, second time in committee, first read, and second read.
- Seek clarification on the policy review and approval process, particularly regarding changes between the first and second reads.
- Communicate to the board that any concerns about policies should be brought up at the table during meetings to adhere to the Sunshine Act.
- Communicate with Keith about approving each policy separately at the board meeting.
- Send an email to board members on Friday reminding them to review policies for a second read and bring any concerns to the board meeting.
- Re-evaluate the personal necessity leave policy before the next board meeting.

### **JOC Procedures**

David, Heidi, Wendy, and Sarah discussed the organization and procedures of their joint operating committee. They agreed to switch the timeline for selecting the Chairperson and Vice-Chairman from December to January and to change the Secretary's term from 4 years to 3 years to match the years of service on the JOC board. They also decided to add the Facilities Committee to their list of committees. Heidi raised concerns about the Sunshine Act and the need for a legal review of the joint operating committee's procedures. The team agreed to make these changes and to have a legal review of the updated procedures. Heidi suggested that we develop an expulsion policy if we don't already have one for Policy 003.

### **Refining Committee Meeting and Communication Policies**

The meeting focused on refining policies related to committee meetings and electronic communications. Heidi suggested broadening the policy to allow for electronic participation in meetings, while Wendy expressed concerns about members feeling their presence is not important if they participate remotely. David proposed adding a substitute clause to ensure the quorum is maintained, and the group agreed to consider this. The team also discussed the flexibility of the policy, with Heidi suggesting it could be adjusted based on the needs and preferences of the group. The conversation ended with the understanding that the policy could be amended if it becomes a problem or if the group's needs change.

### **2024 Policy Updates and Revisions**

David, Heidi, Sarah, and Wendy discussed the updates to their policies, particularly focusing on the 2024 regulations. They agreed to leave the policies edited by legal counsel unchanged, as they were in line with the current regulations. They also decided to revert some policies to the 2020 regulations, which had been approved in November. The team agreed to put these policies back on for a first reading. The conversation ended with an understanding that the policies would be updated to align with the 2020 regulations.

### **Legal Responsibilities and Policy Implementation**

David, Heidi, and Wendy discussed the legal responsibilities and potential liabilities associated with implementing certain policies. Heidi expressed concern that the district might be taking on more responsibility than necessary, particularly in relation to Title IX and 504 cases. She suggested that the district's legal responsibilities should primarily lie with the school district of residence. David agreed to look into this matter further and decided not to move forward with the 103.1 policy. The team also discussed the potential need for a 504 service coordinator. The conversation ended with David deciding to move forward with Policies 247 and 249 while leaving out the 103.1 policy.

### **Policy Review and Approval Process**

The team discussed the process of policy review and approval. They clarified that once a policy goes through the first reading, it's no longer in their hands and is at the committee's discretion. They also discussed the possibility of changes being made during the second reading, which would then be voted on. The team agreed to keep all policies on the agenda for the second reading and to review each one individually. They also emphasized the importance of adhering to the Sunshine Act and discussing any concerns about policies at the table.

**Policy Review and Approval Process**

The committee discussed the process of policy review and approval. Heidi suggested that policies should be reviewed twice before being sent for first reading, to ensure all concerns are addressed. David agreed to clarify the process with the board. The committee also discussed the need for clear communication about the review process to avoid confusion. They decided to bring up certain policies for the first reading, including those related to Title IX, and to discuss others at a later date. The committee also discussed the need for a clear decision-making process and the potential for sending policies back to the committee for further review if there is disagreement.