

The New London Board of Education Policy Committee meeting was held on October 7, 2025 via Zoom teleconferencing.

1. Call to Order

Nathan Caron, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present for the Committee: Nathan Caron – Committee Chair
Scott Garbini – Committee Member
Colleen Delaporta-Wells – NLEA Representative

Absent for the Committee: Betsy Perkins – Community Representative
Elaine Maynard-Adams – Committee Member

Present for the Administration: Kristea A. Francolino – Manager of Executive Support Services
Christine Pemberton – Executive Director of Talent & Human Resources
Dr. Cynthia Ritchie – Superintendent of Schools

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Motion by Mr. Caron, seconded by Mr. Garbini, to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2025 Policy Committee meeting.

Motion carried, 3-0

4. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Motion by Mr. Caron, seconded by Mr. Garbini, that the following items, as set forth on the Consent Agenda for the Policy Committee meeting of October 7, 2025 be approved unless removed by a Committee Member or the Superintendent of Schools:

- a. Rescind the Following Policy
 - i. 5111 – Admission & Placement Policy
- b. Adopt the Following Policy
 - i. 5112 – Ages of Attendance, Admission, Placement
- c. Approve the Following Policy
 - i. 5118.2 – Educational Opportunities for Military Children

Motion carried, 3-0

5. Items Pulled from Consent Agenda

- a. Adopt the Following Policies
 - i. 6148 – FAFSA Completion Policy

Motion by Mr. Garbini, seconded by Mr. Caron, to adopt Policy 6148 – FAFSA Completion Policy.

Mr. Garbini shared that he works in higher education, and this topic has been a big source of conversation. He noted that his biggest concern is that through requiring the district to have a goal of 100%, he would not be in favor because he would never want any child who is here illegally to complete this out and send it to the government. Mr. Caron expressed that he agreed with Mr. Garbini and had some concerns. He wondered what is done with this information, and what potential actions, can come from it. He also asked if the portal for FAFSA is something that already exists, or if that is something which needs to be created by the District.

Dr. Hills-Papetti shared that this is a legislative requirement which has always been a bone of contention in district. She did share that the district does exercise the waiver process. Staff guide parent and students through the process and provide assistance about the pros and cons. The waiver that exists simply states that a student is choosing not to fill it out, and the existence of the waiver is reported. Mr. Garbini asked what happens to the form after, and Dr. Hills-Papetti shared that she believes they just stay on file with the District, but she will confirm.

Motion by Mr. Garbini, seconded by Mr. Caron, to amend number 12 to say “assist families in creating a profile in the FAFSA portal”.

Motion carried, 3-0

Ms. Francolino shared that when this comes back to the table she can share other versions that she can find for the committee to review.

Motion by Mr. Caron, seconded by Mr. Garbini, to table Policy 6148 to a future meeting.

Motion carried, 3-0

6. Committee Member Comments

Mr. Garbini thanked everyone for their work. Ms. Delaporta-Wells echoed Mr. Garbini's sentiments. Mr. Caron thanked everyone for their work and participation. The next meeting will be held on November 18.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Garbini, seconded by Ms. Delaporta-Wells, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried, 3-0

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristea A. Francolino
Manager of Executive Support Services