

Dr. Rasmus called the Millville Area School District Policy Committee Meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

Those present in the High School Library were Joseph Rasmus, Superintendent; Corey Whitmoyer, Board/Committee member; Alex Cavallini, Board/Committee member; Greg Hemsarth, Board/Committee member; Brandon Gordner, Elementary Principal; Matt Mills, Secondary Principal; and Chelsea Rosenberger, Board Recording Secretary.

Policy 240: Charter Schools

- Dr. Rasmus reviewed the proposed updates to the Charter Schools policy, including language addressing staff members leaving the district to work for charter schools.
 - Mr. Hemsarth asked for clarification regarding the term “regional” and whether it provides broader authority or influence across multiple districts.
 - Dr. Rasmus answered that he needed to investigate that further.
- The Committee discussed the differences between charter schools and private schools.
 - Dr. Rasmus clarified that for charter schools, tuition is deducted through PDE subsidy calculations while with private schools, the district responsibility is limited primarily to transportation. He added that tuition rates for charter schools are determined through PDE formula calculations.
 - Mr. Hemsarth asked for more context on brick and mortar charter schools as compared with cyber charter schools and how it relates to the policy. Additionally, he requested information on the district’s responsibilities under in loco parentis, particularly during transportation transitions.
 - Dr. Rasmus agreed to gather additional information and provide further clarification at a future meeting.

Policy 810: Transportation

- Dr. Rasmus shared the proposed updates to the Transportation policy, noting concerns related to transportation logistics and supervision of students attending non-public schools, including Amish schools. He noted the need for clear supervision expectations during transportation transitions.
- Mr. Whitmoyer, related to his employment with the transportation contractor, was asked whether a more efficient transportation plan could be developed for the upcoming school year.
 - Mr. Whitmoyer indicated that he felt efficiency improvements were possible and should be explored.

Policy 221: Dress and Grooming (Students)

- The Committee reviewed proposed revisions to the Student Dress and Grooming policy. Concerns were raised regarding consistency in enforcement of the dress code. It was noted that policy language must remain gender-neutral and significant changes should not be implemented abruptly this late in the school year.
- Dr. Rasmus recommended forming a Dress Code Guideline Committee to review expectations, ensure consistency, and implement updates gradually over time.
- The Committee agreed that ongoing discussion and incremental updates would be appropriate.

Policy 325: Dress and Grooming (Staff)

- Dr. Rasmus reviewed the proposed updates to the Staff Dress and Grooming policy, emphasizing the need for consistency in expectations between staff and students.
 - Mr. Hemsarth asked what the current Faculty Handbook stated in terms of the dress code.
 - Mr. Gordner read the section related to the dress code from the faculty handbook.
 - Dr. Rasmus agreed that this language should be clarified more for staff.
 - Mr. Gordner asked if the district should consider developing a Support Staff Handbook.
- The Committee discussed the language.

Administrative Regulations – 325-AR-0

- The Committee reviewed the document and recommended that this move forward to the Board for consideration.

Administrative Regulation - 325-AR-1

- Dr. Rasmus shared the updates to this administrative regulation, highlighting the new requirement to enforce wearing ID badges.
 - Mr. Whitmoyer stated that he was comfortable with the language, including the new requirements for ID badges.
 - The Committee discussed this language and were comfortable with moving forward.
 - Mr. Hemsarth asked if the language regarding ID badges should be placed within the policy (325).
 - The other Committee members were amenable to this proposal.

Additional Policies & Drafts

- The committee briefly reviewed additional draft policies and administrative regulations, including Policy 236.1 – Threat Assessment; Policy 122 / 122.1 – Student Groups & Activities; and the related administrative regulations. Due to time constraints, the committee agreed to table remaining discussion and continue review at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned the meeting at 6:04 pm.

Chelsea Rosenberger
Board Recording Secretary