March 10, 2026

The Policy Committee of Community High School District 99 met on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at the Administrative Service Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

Present: Board President Don Renner and Member Christopher Espinoza. Also present were Hank Thiele, Superintendent; Jeff Bergholtz, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Kelly Zuerner, Director of Staff Experiences; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

There were no visitors.

The minutes of the September 10, 2025 meeting were reviewed and approved.

I. The following policies had revisions recommended by PRESS. Revisions were in response to legislation, new public acts, and feedback. The Policy Committee agreed with the PRESS recommendations.

- 2.120, Board Member Development
- 2.150, Committees
- 2.270, Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited
- 4.10, Fiscal and Business Management
- 4.30, Revenue and Investments
- 4.80, Accounting and Audits
- 5.10, Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
- 5.90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
- 5.100, Staff Development Program
- 5.200, Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
- 5.280, Duties and Qualifications
- 5.300, Schedules and Employment Year
- 6.20, School Year Calendar and Day
- 6.160, English Learners
- 6.300, Graduation Requirements
- 6.310, High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students
- 6.315, High School Credit for Students in Grades 7 or 8
- 7.70, Attendance and Truancy
- 7.180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment – Dr. Thiele shared the PRESS update includes bullying through the use of AI.
- 7.190, Student Behavior
- 7.290, Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention
- 7.315, Restrictions on Publications; High Schools

- 7.340, Student Records
- 8.30, Visitors and Conduct on School Property

These policies will be brought forward for First Reading on March 16, 2026.

II. The following policies had revisions recommended by PRESS, with additional changes recommended by the Administration. PRESS revisions were in response to legislation, new public acts, and feedback. The Policy Committee agreed with the recommended revisions.

- 6.40, Curriculum Development – Dr. Thiele shared, in addition to the PRESS changes, the Administration recommends, under Single-Gender Classes and Activities, the addition of "*or designee*" after Superintendent when addressing the evaluation of single-gender classes or activities.
- 6.60, Curriculum Content – In addition to the PRESS updates, suggested clarifying language provided by Gina Ziccardi has been added to the policy, according to Dr. Thiele.
- 6.270, Counseling and Student Support Services Program – The recommendation by the Administration, according to Dr. Thiele, is to align the entire policy to PRESS.
- 7.150, Agency and Police Interviews or Contact with Students – Dr. Thiele stated the Administration recommends keeping Board policy 8.35, *Immigration Enforcement Activities by Federal Agencies*, which the District's attorneys drafted, and adopting the updated PRESS version of Board policy 7.150. Additionally, he shared the Administration recommends keeping the last line of current Board policy 7.150 when adopting the PRESS policy.

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III. The following policies have revisions recommended solely by the Administration or a Board member.

- 2.140, Communications to and From the Board – Dr. Thiele explained the changes were recommended by Member Casten and that the District's attorneys had reviewed the changes. The Committee discussed why the changes are important and how they will help guide individuals who are seeking election to the Board. President Renner suggested adding a sentence clarifying that the guidelines are applied when a Board member is acting in their capacity as a Board member and do not apply to their personal social media accounts.
- 4.20, Fund Balances – Based on discussions by the Board at the January 26, 2026 Board meeting, the Administration recommends increasing the fund ratio to 6%. Dr. Thiele stated the goal, in the next 3-5 years, is to raise the ratio to 10%.

- 4.150, Facility Management and Building Programs – The Administration, according to Dr. Thiele, recommends adding a sentence at the end of the policy directing the reader to where information on the naming of buildings and facilities can be found.
- 5.50, Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace, E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition – Dr. Thiele stated this is language clean up.

The Policy Committee agreed with the proposed revisions recommended by the Administration, Member Casten, and the revision proposed by President Renner to Board policy, 2.140.

These policies will be brought forward for First Reading on March 16, 2026.

IV. Reception of Visitors – Public Comment

There were no public comments.

V. The next meeting date has not been determined.

VI. The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.