POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, May 4, 2026
Immediately following the Education Committee Meeting
Northern Lehigh District Office
Board Room

Committee Members							Remaining Meeting Dates
X	**Gale Husack Chairperson**	X	**Dr. Matthew Link**		**Gene Marks**		June 1, 2026
X	**Gary Fedorcha Co-Chairperson**	X	**Dr. Lori Bali**	X	**Sherri Molitoris**		August 3, 2026
X	**Crystal Bilby**	X	**Todd Breiner**	X	**Scott Pyne**		September 8, 2026-Tuesday
X	**Mathias Green, Jr.**	X	**Michelle Dotta**		**MaryAnn Rush Wallace**		November 2, 2026
X	**Donna Kulp**		**Nicole Del Gotto**	X	**James Schnyderite**		
X	**Natalie Snyder**		**Nichole Fink**	X	**Dr. Tania Stoker**		
X	**Joyce Thompson**	X	**Eric Hill**	X	**Daniel Williams**		
X	**Timothy Weaber**		**Nicholas Krajcic**				
X	**Angela Williams**	X X	**Christopher Mann**				

Also in attendance: Steven Haas,

AGENDA

CHARTER SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

- Policy 140 - Charter Schools
  - Our policy was last updated November 2008
  - Updated to provide clarification pertaining to the requirement of the school district to provide transportation to charter school students and the district's responsibilities
  - The recent PA Supreme Court case Bell v. Wilkinsburg Sch. Dist., No. 23 WAP 2024, 2026 WL 152043 (Pa. Jan. 21, 2026) held that the Charter School Law does not require school districts to provide the same mode of transportation to charter school students that it provides to traditional public school students. The school

district must provide a free mode of transportation to charter school students, not an identical one to district students.
    - Additional minor edits were made throughout the policy and the Purpose statement was revised for better clarity and conciseness.
    - This policy is recommended for legal liability purposes
    - The committee supports this policy moving to the May agenda for the consideration by the full board.
- Policy 810 - Transportation
    - Our policy was last updated December 2024
    - Updated to provide clarification pertaining to the requirement of the school district to provide transportation to charter school students and the district's responsibilities. The district must provide free transportation for charter school students but the mode of transportation does not need to be identical to the mode of transportation provided for traditional public school students.
    - This policy is a mandated policy
    - The committee supports this policy moving to the May agenda for the consideration by the full board.

CROWN ACT & DRESS CODE

- Policy 221 - Dress and Grooming (Students)
    - Our policy was last updated May 2023
    - Updated due to the passage of the CROWN Act which provides protection for individuals from discrimination based on hairstyles historically associated with an individual's race as well as religious creed including head coverings and hairstyles historically associated with religious creeds.
    - This policy is a mandated policy
    - The committee supports this policy moving to the May agenda for the consideration by the full board.
- Policy 325 - Dress and Grooming (Employees)
    - Our policy was last updated November 2015
    - Updated based on the new requirements of the CROWN Act to protect employees from discrimination based on hairstyles historically associated with an individual's race as well as religious creed including head coverings and hairstyles historically associated with religious creeds.
    - This policy is PSBA recommended policy
    - The committee supports this policy moving to the May agenda for the consideration by the full board.

OTHER UPDATES

- Policy 236.1 - Threat Assessment

    - Our policy was last updated June 2025
    - Updated after new requirements were added to the PA School Code - 24 P.S. Sec. 1302-E regarding the established procedures for threat assessment teams.
        - Threat assessment teams must now include in their established procedures the protocols for timely consultation between the threat assessment team and law enforcement, juvenile justice agencies, county agencies, health care providers or behavioral service providers, as appropriate, when referring students whose behavior indicates a potential threat for additional interventions or supports.
        - The protocols must also address the need for the exchange of relevant information being done in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
    - The list of optional personnel to be part of the district's threat assessment team has also been expanded to include an individual who serves on a local or county threat assessment team, if applicable.
    - This policy is recommended for legal liability purposes
    - The committee supports this policy moving to the May agenda for the consideration by the full board.
- Policy 332 - Working Periods
    - Our policy was last updated May 2022
    - Minor update of adding language to refer to state law, 24 P.S. Sec. 133, when addressing the Board's authority to determine the hours and days during which district programs and services will be available to students and the community.
    - This policy is a PSBA recommended policy
    - The committee supports this policy moving to the May agenda for the consideration by the full board.
- Policy 619 - District Audit
    - Our policy was last updated August 2011
    - Historically, the Pennsylvania Auditor General's Office conducted periodic audits of school district finances on behalf of the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). These included compliance reviews, performance audits, and examinations of how districts spent state funds. In 2022, the Auditor General announced that the office would no longer conduct school district audits on behalf of PDE and the responsibility was returned to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
    - PDE is in the process of determining details regarding the scheduling and scope of the state-level audits of school entity financial records.
    - What remains unchanged is the responsibility of each school entity to continue to hire an independent Certified Public Accountant (CPA) to conduct the annual local audit of revenues and expenditures.

    - PSBA updated this policy to reflect the shift of audit responsibility from the Auditor General's Office back to the PDE. The content was drafted to generally refer to a "state" audit rather than focusing on which office (PDE) is responsible for conducting the state-level audit. Additional revisions were made to more clearly address the purpose of the policy.
    - This policy is recommended for legal liability purposes
    - The committee supports this policy moving to the May agenda for the consideration by the full board.

- 26-27 Bullying Prevention Plan