

The Subcommittee on School Committee Policies met on Friday, May 29, 2026, in the Virtual Zoom Meeting. Present were Kathy Bent, Courtney West, Sara Ahern, Kristen Harmon, Jason Conetta, Alicia Bryant, Madi Campagna, Katri Mullaly, Sandy Gifford, and Jen Kruczek.

Ms. Bent called the meeting to order at 8:32AM.

Minutes

- Motion by Ms. West, seconded by Dr. Ahern, and the Committee voted, unanimously, to approve the meeting Minutes of March 13, 2026.

Create Policy JICJ-A (Cell Phones and Personal Electronic Devices)

- Jason Conetta stated staff will feel more in control with Yondr pouches. The high school has a cell phone policy and when it is adhered to, it works.
- Dr. Ahern stated these are two different conversations: the policy and then how it gets implemented. Legislation is likely to pass before the next school year. She thinks there will be no cell phones bell to bell.
- Ms. Bent stated there is a policy at the high school, but not a district wide one.
- Mr. Conetta stated there has been talk amongst staff members how it will be on the staff to monitor this if there are no Yondr pouches.
- Ms. West asked why would we be against Yondr pouches. Ms. Bent stated they are expensive and some parents want their children to have their phones on them.
- Mr. Conetta stated there will be parents/guardians not happy about taking their child's personal devices. At his last district, they had community forums where parents could voice their concerns.
- Dr. Ahern said the state is going to require a policy and she thinks it is going to happen quickly. At the legislative breakfast, a House of Representative person spoke about it. The bell to bell piece is the big piece and it is for all personal devices. For implementation, there is a financial expense for Yondr pouches, the logistics of implementation, and students and parents' feelings about not having the phone on their person. Students will seek to circumvent the policy. There is also an app that has geo-blocking, but asking students to download an app and if there is a data breach; she is concerned.
- Mr. Conetta stated if there is a device to lock up the phones, there are logistics that need to be worked out.
- Ms. West understands the parent perspective of wanting their kids to have their phones on them.
- Dr. Ahern stated reasonable exceptions, medical, IEP, administrative permission, needs to be added to the policy. There are other legitimate reasons for students needing to use their phones during the day.
- Ms. Bent added the reasonable exceptions language to the policy from the House's bill.
- Dr. Ahern stated she will send the proposed policy to parents with the Bills that have both passed.
- Jason Conetta left the meeting.

Revise Policy JKAA - Physical Restraint of Students (new title Time-Out, Seclusion, and Restraint of Students)

- Ms. Bent stated this item will be postponed pending our attorney working on a policy with DESE.
- Dr. Ahern stated they are also working on the procedures.

Revise Policy JFAA (School Admissions - Residency Requirements)

- Dr. Ahern spoke to the district's attorneys and if the School Committee were willing, there is an opportunity to have tuition paying students. Nauset made an inquiry to have Barnstable Intermediate School take one of their students in the NECC program. We have two students in the program, but we pay for seven students. Her suggestion, under 1b, is for the School Committee to authorize the Superintendent to permit non Barnstable students for tuition on a case-by-case basis. This could also apply to exchange students.
- The Committee agreed to this change.

Revise Policy EFD (School Nutrition Program Charge Policy)

- Madi Campagna joined the meeting.
- Ms. Campagna stated some of these changes came from the audit. An issue came up with the refund policy. She added a line about a timeframe for requesting a refund or moving it to a sibling. She will reach out to those that have money left in their account prior to this policy going into effect.
- The Committee agreed to this change.

Revise Policy ADF (District Wellness Policy)

- Alicia Bryant joined the meeting.
- Dr. Ahern asked if this policy had been shared with the Wellness Committee. Ms. Bryant stated not yet. We only added federal requirements that were missing in the policy. Ms. Campagna stated some pieces were caught in the audit that are required to be in the policy.
- The Committee reviewed the policy changes.
- Ms. Bryant stated they added the water consumption component.
- Ms. Bent asked about the physical education goals. Ms. Bryant reached out to Vanessa Pyy for this piece. She is open to suggestions.
- Dr. Ahern thinks the district will be out of compliance this Fall and there will be changes to come into compliance.
- Ms. Harmon stated this is contrary to the graduation requirements. She asked if it can say "it will be offered and not required." Every student is not required to take PE at the high school level.
- Dr. Ahern stated there could be a financial piece.
- Ms. Bent asked if we need to change graduation requirements. Dr. Ahern stated no, students just need to take it, not pass the class. This is something we need to build into. We cannot just spring new requirements on students.
- The Committee discussed the PE requirement.
- Dr. Ahern stated this should be put in the graduation policy. She would like to look at the options. Ms. Harmon stated it should be phased in.
- The Committee agreed to the changes.
- Dr. Ahern asked Ms. Bryant to circulate the policy to the Wellness Committee. Ms. Bryant stated she would share it and ask for feedback.
- Madi Campagna left the meeting.

Revise Policy JLCD (Administering Medicines to Students)

- Dr. Ahern stated the required language was added. She asked why field trips was crossed out. Ms. Bryant stated it was crossed out and all school related activities was added to encompass all activities.
- The Committee agreed to the changes.

Create Policy JLCDC (Self-Administration and Self-Carry of Medicines)

- Ms. Bryant stated number 10 was added from the MASC policy. Legal references were added.
- Alicia Bryant left the meeting.

Revise Policy KF-R (Community Use of School Facilities)

- Katri Mullaly entered the meeting.
- Dr. Ahern stated Ms. Mullaly approached her on these out of date procedures.
- Ms. West asked why we don't allow personal, individual, commercial purposes. Ms. Mullaly stated for liability reasons. They need to have liability insurance.
- Ms. West asked if they got insurance, then they could use the space. Dr. Ahern stated there is a balance to be had with custodial staff, money brought in, and wear and tear on the fields.
- Dr. Ahern asked if we have rentals for commercial purposes. Ms. Mullaly stated Spectacle Management brings in concerts. Co-Op of Cape Cod did team building on the field. The majority of rentals are non-profits.
- Ms. Bent asked about the home show. Ms. Mullaly stated they are a non-profit and have some agreement to only pay for the custodians. Dr. Ahern was not aware of this agreement. She does not think there is a formal agreement.
- The Committee agreed to the changes.
- Katri Mullaly left the meeting.

Revise Policy EEAEA (Bus Driver Examination and Training)

- Sandy Gifford joined the meeting.
- Ms. Bent stated MASC is recommending an update for clarity and to reflect current practice.
- Dr. Ahern stated the MASC policy does not have a school bus certificate. Ms. Gifford stated that is needed.
- Dr. Ahern stated the Barnstable policy has more information than the MASC policy. In #4, Barnstable has the Director of Transportation instead of the School Committee. Ms. Gifford stated not every district has a Director of Transportation like Barnstable.
- Dr. Ahern stated the policy was reviewed with no changes made.

Revise Policy JFBB (School Choice)

- The Subcommittee will review this policy at the next meeting.

Revise Policy KBG (Parent Advisory Councils - PACs)

- The Subcommittee will review this policy at the next meeting.

Next Steps

- The next Policies Subcommittee meeting will be on June 26 at 3:00PM.

Motion by Ms. West, seconded by Dr. Ahern, and the Committee voted, unanimously, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:23AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Kruczek
Executive Assistant