

**BOE Policy Committee Minutes
Wednesday, June 24, 2020
Virtual Meeting 8:30 A.M.**

In consideration of public health, open meetings and the Governor’s Executive Order No. 7B dated March 10, 2020 regarding PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID- 19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - FURTHER SUSPENSION OR MODIFICATION OF STATUTES; this meeting will include an option for the public to phone in to listen to the audio of the meeting. Please note that public comment will be received by phone at the beginning and end of this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

IN ATTENDANCE Rebekah Harriman-Stites, Dan Cruson, Lorrie Rodrigue, Sarah Connell, Suzanne D’Eramo

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

APPROVE MINUTES Rebekah Harriman-Stites made a motion to move the approval of the minutes of June 24, 2020 to the next meeting. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

UNFINISHED NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action:

Item	Reports
<p>Policy 6114.8 – Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness (Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies) Newtown Health Director, Donna Culbert needed more time to review the sample regulations that CAFE provided. R. Harriman-Stites made a motion to move this policy to the next policy meeting. D. Cruson seconded. Motion approved.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will send this policy/regulations to D.Culbert for her review and recommendations
<p>Policy 4112.11 – Non-Union Personnel S. D’Eramo and L. Rodrigue received input from Shipman and Goodwin regarding this policy. Shipman & Goodwin advised them that this policy was not necessary and the committee agreed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No further action required.
<p>Policy 4112.4 – Health Examination After speaking with Shipman & Goodwin it was decided that this policy and practice is no longer needed. The cost of this examination is high and Shipman & Goodwin does not feel it is necessary for hiring purposes. Positions that are required to be physical will still be required to do a Health examination. R. Harriman-Stites made a motion to rescind this policy. D. Cruson seconded. Motion approved.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will send this policy to Kathy June to send to the Board to rescind.

<p>Policy 4112.421 – Pre-Employment Drug Screening Test</p> <p>Newtown does not have a current policy on this topic and it was advised that Newtown Public Schools does not need this policy by Shipman and Goodwin.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No further action required.
<p>Policy 6172.61 – Distance Education</p> <p>L. Rodrigue made edits to this policy. The edits are as followed:</p> <p>It was decided to change each header from “Distance Learning Plan Due to Health-Based School Closure” to “Distance Learning Plan Due to Health <u>and Safety</u> School Closure”. L. Rodrigue did not want to limit this policy to just Health closures because other safety closures can possibly happen as well. Language referring to this was added in the first paragraph:</p> <p>“This policy outlines Newtown Public School District’s plan to provide distance learning options in the event that the school District must be closed due to an emergency health situation <u>or a potential closing due to other safety reasons.</u>”</p> <p>On page (a), Under Goals of Distance Learning program, L. Rodrigue added a bullet that outlines social and emotion supports. The new bullet states: <u>4. To facilitate ongoing academic and social/emotional supports for all students so they can be successful in a remote learning environment.</u></p> <p>On page (b) under Communication, it was decided to remove language from the Governor because it changes so frequently. L. Rodrigue changed the language to say “<u>Communication regarding school closure and a move to distance learning</u> will be sent to parents/guardians utilizing the District’s emergency notification/communication system. Detailed instructions will also be posted on the school and District websites.”</p> <p>On page (c) under Time Schedules, L. Rodrigue felt that the language CABE provided was problematic and created a sentence that works with Newtown’s practice. The sentence states: <u>During distance learning, teachers will respond to emails in a timely manner during the regular hours of school operation. Distance learning hours and school schedules (K-12) will be communicated to parents and posted on our District website.</u></p> <p>The committee agreed with all of L. Rodrigue’s edits. S. Connell will send this polic to D. Petersen to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will send this policy to D. Mailloux-Petersen for her input on this policy.

review the Special Education portion of this policy and ask for her input.	
Policy 9321.2 – Time, Place and Notification of Meetings / Electronic Board of Education Meetings M. Ku will review this policy for an upcoming policy meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee to review

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action:

Item	Reports
Policy 0523 – Equity and Diversity L. Rodrigue reviewed the samples from CABA and thought the second sample worked with our District. The committee agreed. L. Rodrigue also stated that there was some language in the first sample that she would like to add to the second. She will also add language regarding Racial Harrassment. R. Harriman-Stites requested that we bring our Racial Harrasment draft policy to the next meeting to compare.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L. Rodrigue will make more edits to this policy and bring back to the committee. • S. Connell will add Policy – Racial Harrassment to the next policy agenda.
Policy 5145.14- On-Campus Recruitment The committee reviewed questions from a Board member and made necessary edits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will send this policy back to Kathy June for Board review.
Policy 5145.2 – Activism and Dissent The committee reviewed questions from a Board member and made necessary edits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will send this policy back to Kathy June for Board review.

UPDATE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

A motion was made by Rebekah Harriman-Stites to postpone discussion/action on Policy 6114.8 – Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness (Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies), Policy 6172.61 – Distance Education , Policy 9321.2 – Time, Place and Notification of Meetings / Electronic Board of Education Meetings, Policy 0523 – Equity and Diversity. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Rebekah Harriman-Stites to send Policy 4112.4 – Health Examination to the Board to be rescinded. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Rebekah Harriman-Stites made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m