

BOE Policy Committee Minutes
Special Meeting
Tuesday, October 4, 2022, 10:00 – 11:30 am
Municipal Building, BOE Conference Room
3 Primrose St, Newtown, CT 06470

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 10:01 am

IN ATTENDANCE Dan Cruson, Deborra Zukowski, Janet Kuzma, Chris Melillo, Suzanne D’Eramo, Sarah Connell

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None

APPROVE MINUTES Dan Cruson made a motion to approve the minutes of September 14, 2022. Deborra Zukowski seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

D. Zukowski made a motion to table Policy 5131.911 – Bullying Prevention and Intervention , Policy 4118.231– Smoking, Drinking & Use of Drugs on School Premises and Policy 4118.232 – Drug Free Workplace, Policy 1700 - Possession of Firearms or Deadly Weapons, Policy 4118.234 – Prohibition on Recommendations for Psychotropic Drugs. D. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action:

Item	Reports
<p>Policy 5131.911 – Bullying Prevention and Intervention</p> <p>The committee received definitions for Harassment and Discrimination from Shipman and Goodwin. The committee agreed that it still needed some editing. The definition for Harassment was edited to become: <u>“Harassment in this context is defined as any unwelcome conduct on the basis of one or more Diversity Characteristics. Harassment does not have to include intent to harm, be directed at a specific target, or involve repeated incidents.”</u> The committee agreed the definition for Discrimination was acceptable. It reads <u>“With respect to students, unlawful discrimination occurs when a student is denied participation in, or the benefits of, a program or activity of the Board because of such student’s actual or perceived membership in a protected class.”</u></p> <p>S.Connell will send Newtown’s draft policy to Shipman for review and ask for their recommendations. S. Connell will also add in a list of policies that cross reference as well as legal references.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will bring shipman’s recommendations to the next policy meeting.

<p>Policy 4118.231– Smoking, Drinking & Use of Drugs on School Premises and Policy 4118.232 – Drug Free Workplace</p> <p>The committee asked S. D’Eramo to move the definitions to the beginning of the policy to have the same format as other adopted policies.</p> <p>The committee also agreed to remove the language <i>“including marijuana used for palliative purposes”</i> in the fourth paragraph on page (a). Removing this language does not change the policy. The committee does not feel it is necessary to view this policy again and asked S. Connell to add this policy to the 4000 series queue.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will add this policy to the 4000 series queue for Board approval.
<p>Policy 1700 - Possession of Firearms or Deadly Weapons</p> <p>S. D’Eramo worked with Shipman on editing Newtown’s current policy. The committee agreed that the definition for “Peace Officer” was lengthy and felt it would be best to refer to the Conn. Gen. Stat. instead. after discussion from the committee regarding changing the title of this policy; S. D’Eramo will ask Shipman for a definition of deadly vs dangerous weapon.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion and possible action on this policy. • S. Connell will invite S. D’Eramo to this policy meeting.
<p>Policy 4118.234 – Prohibition on Recommendations for Psychotropic Drugs</p> <p>S. D’Eramo will move the list of definitions to the beginning of the policy to have the same format as other adopted policies. S. D’Eramo will also remove the definition of school health and mental health personnel from the administrative regulation. The committee does not feel it is necessary to see this policy again and asked S. Connell to add it to the 4000 series queue.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will add this policy to the 4000 series queue for Board approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action:

Item	Reports
<p>Policy 4111/4211 – Recruitment and Selection</p> <p>The committee had a lengthy conversation about Newtown’s current practices with the Board’s participation in hiring Administrators. Currently, there is one Board member on the hiring committee but all of the members are requires the vote to hire the candidate. The committee feels that a conversation with the entire Board is necessary. D. Zukowski will work on editing this policy. S.Connell will add this item to 10/26 agenda.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion and possible action on this policy.

D. Zukowski made a motion to take Policy 5131.911 – Bullying Prevention and Intervention , Policy 4118.231– Smoking, Drinking & Use of Drugs on School Premises and Policy 4118.232 – Drug Free Workplace, Policy 1700 - Possession of Firearms or Deadly Weapons, and Policy 4118.234 – Prohibition on Recommendations for Psychotropic Drugs off the table. D. Cruson seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

UPDATE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Melillo reported that there will be a committee meeting to discuss the move back to Hawley on October 24th. This committee will include admin, parents, staff and teachers.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Dan Cruson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. D. Zukowski seconded. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.