

BOE Policy Committee Minutes
Wednesday, January 25, 2023, 9:00 – 10:30 am
Municipal Building, BOE Conference Room
3 Primrose St, Newtown, CT 06470

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None

APPROVE MINUTES Dan Cruson made a motion to approve the minutes of December 13, 2022. Janet Kuzma seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action:

Item	Reports
<p>Policy 9300 – Methods of Operation D. Cruson informed the committee that this policy should have been rescinded in 2019. He would like to take it back to the Board to be rescinded. The committee agreed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will send this bylaw to K. June for Board to be rescinded.
<p>Discussion about legal updates regarding protected classes. D. Zukowski had a conversation with Shipman and Goodwin regarding Board policies and protected classes that are outlined in the policies. Shipman and Goodwin confirmed that it is possible for the Board to create a definition of “Protected Classes” to use throughout other policies, but there are some conditions. They suggest us putting this definition in the 0000 series if we choose to go that route. C. Melillo suggested having a more inclusive list than federally obligated. The committee agreed. D. Zukowski asked the committee if they would feel comfortable thinking about this some more and bringing it back to a future meeting. The committee agreed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will add this topic to an upcoming policy meeting.
<p>Policy 4118.51/4218.51/4118.12/4218.12 – Freedom of Speech and Social Media Shipman and Goodwin reviewed this edited policy for Newtown and provided some input. The committee agreed that their recommendations were acceptable and asked S. Connell to make the edits before sending to the BOE for approval.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Connell will send this policy to K. June for Board approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action:

Item	Reports
Policy 5114 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process C. Melillo requested for this policy to be reviewed by the committee. S. Connell also received a sample policy from Shipman and Goodwin for reference.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion and possible action on this policy.
Policy 4131 – Staff Development S. D’Eramo does not recommend adopting this policy. The committee agreed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• S. Connell will send Policy 4-104 to K. June for the BOE to rescind.
Policy 4131.1 – Exchange Teaching S. D’Eramo does not recommend adopting this policy. The committee agreed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No further action.
Policy 4131.3 – In Service Education / Independent Study S. D’Eramo does not recommend adopting this policy. The committee agreed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion and possible action on this policy.
Policy 4131.5 – Continuing Education Units S. D’Eramo does not recommend adopting this policy. The committee agreed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• S. Connell will send Policy 4-105 to K. June for the BOE to rescind.
Policy 4131.6 – Staff Technology Competencies S. D’Eramo does not recommend adopting this policy. The committee agreed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion and possible action on this policy.
Policy 4132 – Publication or Creation of Materials D. Zukowski asked the committee for time to review this policy. The committee asked S. Connell to reach out to Shipman and Goodwin for possible sample policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• S. Connell will invite S. D’Eramo to the next policy meeting.
Policy 4132.1 – Copyrights and Patents D. Zukowski asked the committee for time to review this policy. The committee asked S. Connell to reach out to Shipman and Goodwin for possible sample policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• S. Connell will invite S. D’Eramo to the next policy meeting.

UPDATE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Melillo spoke to the committee about the upcoming Budget Board Adoption. He told the committee that he came in with a lower number than surrounding towns but it is a team effort and he welcomes constructive criticism. We are a team. The committee stated that they appreciated his hard work on the budget.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Dan Cruson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deborra Zukowski seconded. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 10:39a.m.