

**BOE Policy Committee Minutes  
Wednesday, September 16, 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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**APPROVE MINUTES** Rebekah Harriman-Stites made a motion to approve the minutes of August 26, 2020. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

**UNFINISHED NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion and possible action:**

Item	Reports
<p><b>Policy 0523 – Equity and Diversity</b></p> <p>The committee reviewed all the questions from the Board members and staff. After consideration, the committee agreed to make the following edits.</p> <p>On page (a), the committee agreed to change the language “his or her” to “their” in the last sentence in the first paragraph. It was also decided that the optional language was better language for Newtown.</p> <p>L. Rodrigue suggested adding a definition for Upstander on page (a) and will send to S. Connell to add.</p> <p>The last paragraph on page (a) will now read: <i>The concept of educational equity extends beyond formal equity, where all students are treated the same, to fostering a barrier-free environment where all students, regardless of their race, class, or other personal characteristics such as creed, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, economic status, gender, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, pregnancy status, marital status, physical appearance, or the presence of any</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• S. Connell to make final edits</li><li>• Committee to re-review at an upcoming meeting.</li></ul>

*sensory, mental or physical disability, have the opportunity to benefit equally. The District schools will continue to change/improve its practices in order to achieve and maintain racial equity in education.*

On page (b), the committee agreed to change the last sentence in the first paragraph to:

*“The district will provide additional and differentiated resources to support the success of all diverse students, including those who are marginalized, disenfranchised, and students of color.”* The same language will be used in the second bullet point on the same page.

S. Connell will make all the edits that the committee discussed and bring back for a final read before the committee sends to the Board for approval.

A motion was made by Rebekah Harriman-Stites to postpone discussion/action on Policy 0523 – Equity and Diversity. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

**UPDATE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT**

None

**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 9:17 a.m