

BOE Policy Committee Minutes
Monday, May 31, 2024, 10:00 am – 11:30 am
Municipal Building, BOE Conference Room
3 Primrose St. Newtown, CT 06470

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

IN ATTENDANCE Doria Linnetz, Don Ramsey, Anne Uberti, Mark Pompano, 2 public

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

APPROVE MINUTES Don Ramsey made a motion to approve the minutes of May 13, 2024. Doria Linnetz seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Policy 6153.1- International Travel

Ms. Linnetz and Mr. Ramsey did not receive any feedback from the Board regarding this policy. Ms. Linnetz asked Ms. Connell to remove the reference policies that Newtown does not currently have. Ms. Connell will send this policy to Ms. June for the BOE second read.

Policy 6114- Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness

Mrs. Uberti raised a concern regarding the language on page 9(b). The language “Each SSSC, in consultation with local law enforcement.” does not reflect Newtown’s current practice because the SSSC is not responsible for providing violence prevention training. It is the Superintendent’s responsibility. Mr. Pompano agreed.

Ms. Linnetz stated that Shipman and Goodwin recommended this language and asked Ms. Connell to reach out to them for additional explanation regarding this language.

Mrs. Uberti, Mr. Pompano and Ms. Connell will meet to discuss possible edits for the committee to review.

Policy 6114.1- Fire Emergency (Drills)/Crisis Response Frills/Bus Safety Drills

The committee had no additional concerns regarding this policy. Ms. Connell will send this policy to Ms. June for a BOE first read at a future BOE meeting.

Policy 6114.7 - School Security and Safety

MRs. Uberti and Mr. Pompano will meet to discuss if this policy is necessary. The committee believes that it can be potentially combined with Policy 6114. Mrs. Uberti and Mr. Pompano will bring their recommendation at the next policy meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Policy 3152 - Spending Public Funds for Advocacy

Ms. Linnetz stated that it is important to review policies on a regular basis to confirm that it is up to date and accurate.

There was confusion in the District on what the rules were regarding advocacy during the last referendum. Communication is extremely important and needs to be outlined clearly in the policy what is allowed.

The Newtown Registrar of Voters attended the meeting as public and agreed that Newtown's current policy was hard to follow and can be confusing for people to know what they can and cannot do.

Ms. Linnetz welcomed the Newtown Registrar of Voters for their input during this process and Ms.

Connell will keep them up to date when the committee will be ready for them to join again.

Ms. Connell will reach out to CABE and Shipman and Goodwin for sample policies for the committee to review at the next policy meeting.

Mrs. Uberti also invited the Newtown Registrar of Voters to attend an A-Team meeting next year to give a refresher to the administrators before the Budget Referendum.

Policy 5112 - Ages of Attendance

The committee did not have the opportunity to review CABE's sample policy. Ms. Linnetz recommends bringing this policy back to the next meeting to review. The committee agreed.

Policy 6115 - Ceremonies and Observances

This is a required policy. Newtown currently has policy 8-401.1 but needs to be updated. Ms. Connell received a sample policy from CABE and the committee agreed that it was accurate to Newtown's practice. Ms. Connell will send this policy to Ms. June for BOE first read.

Policy 6121 - Nondiscrimination in the Instructional Program

This is a required policy. CABE provided two sample policies and the committee agreed that the first sample policy was better suited for Newtown. The committee also agreed to remove the last sentence "students, at the time they become eligible for participation, will be advised of their right to an equal opportunity to participate in school programs without discrimination of any kind." with *"Students who are eligible for participation in school programs have a right to an equal opportunity to participate in such school programs without discrimination of any kind."* Ms. Connell will make that edit and send to Ms. June for BOE first read.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Linnetz seconded. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 11:19am.

****THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES****

