

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 27, 2016 @ 3:30 PM

Attendees: Maria Barth, Kenny Rotner, Denise Day, Wendy DiFruscio, Todd Allen, James Morse

Visitors: 1 – Attorney Graham

Called to order at 3:30 by Maria Barth. Jim explained that we invited Attorney Graham to this meeting to assist the committee in understanding the two different survey policies that are currently pending for the School District.

Attorney Graham explained that we need to change our existing policy and also the pending policy that is in review by the committee, due to the changes made in the State and Federal law. Three major areas need to be incorporated into the existing policy that reflect that a 10-day notice needs to be provided to parents/guardians, a way to review the proposed survey, and the parent/guardian has the option to opt out. He also explained that the state law does not require active consent for a survey.

Attorney Graham also reviewed the Federal guidelines for surveys which if funded in whole or part by any program administered by the U.S. Department of Education and cover the subject matters depicted in policy ILD do require active consent, as well as notice, how the survey will be administered and utilized, and the persons or entities that will have access to the results.

Superintendent Morse asked clarifying questions about the Youth Risk Behavior Survey that is given to the middle and high school students every two years. He explained that this survey gives the District a pattern of our students.

Review of both survey policies and consent forms were done, changes made and will be sent to the School Board for a first read at their February 10th meeting.

Policy ILD & R – Educational Questionnaires, Survey and Research – Legal clarification obtained allowing the District to revise the policies and consent forms to meet all of the state and federal requirements.

Policy ILDA – Non-Educational Questionnaires, Surveys and Research legal clarification obtained and appropriate language included in the revised policy.

Attorney Graham left the meeting at 4:50.

Maria Barth asked to go off the proposed agenda and inquired about the status of the use of the District Tax ID by the various PTO's. Jim explained that a meeting is scheduled for Friday and an update will be given at the next policy meeting. Also asked if a fundraising event could be against the wellness policy. Discussion ensued with Superintendent Morse and the policy committee.

Policy IKAA –Interdisciplinary Credit – both the existing and revised policy that Todd Allen is recommending were reviewed. Todd explained that the graduation required minimum standards have changed and students are now required to take 4 credits of English and 4 credits of math. Todd explained that there are two ways to achieve this. First an additional math credit can be added or secondly, the high school can identify classes that are math intensive like, chemistry, some computer courses, accounting, and even some of the building trade classes and use those toward that 4th math credit.

The committee asked some clarifying questions and agreed that this policy is okay as proposed and will go before the School Board at their February 10th meeting.

Meeting ended at 5:10 PM – Next meeting to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy L. DiFruscio