

**EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
May 16, 2016
Carl T. Secor Administration Building
5:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- I. Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.
 - II. **Policy Committee Members Present were:** Robert Huffman, Wayne Rohner, and Judy Summers. Robert Cooke was absent.
 - III. **Non-Committee Members Present were:** Gary Summers, Lisa VanWhy
 - IV. **School Personnel Present were:** Jeffrey Bader, Susan Cole, Eric Forsyth, Thomas Lesniewski, Frederick Mill, and Debra Wisotsky
- Members of the Public:** Lynn Ondrusek-Pocono Record, Don Doll

V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by Wayne Rohner to approve the minutes for April 18, 2016 (pages 1-3). Motion was seconded by Robert Huffman and carried unanimously, 3-0.

VI. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by Wayner Rohner to approve this agenda for May 16, 2016 (page 1), with members of the Committee reserving the right to add to the agenda and take further action as the Committee deems appropriate. Motion was seconded by Robert Huffman and carried unanimously, 3-0.

VII. **POLICIES FOR DISCUSSION:**

- a. Policy #103.2 Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students—Mr. Forsyth shared earlier in the week that President Obama issued a directive to public schools allowing transgender students to use their bathroom of the gender they identify with. While it does not carry the force of law, it signals how the administration interprets federal statutes, bringing with it the implication that schools could lose federal funding for non-compliance. Administration also shared a copy of PSBA’s response to the President’s announcement. Mrs. Summers shared that she had also read an interesting article on the subject from a Professor Robert P. George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence at Princeton University. Mrs. Laverdure stated that students are currently choosing to use a gender neutral bathroom, such as in the nurse’s office. At this point, we have not received any complaints from students in connection with such provisions. Locker rooms may become an issue in the future. Dr. Lesniewski added that building administration works closely with these students and their parents. Mr. Forsyth asked if the committee wanted to move forward with the policy for public review and comment. The committee decided that since this is such a rapidly evolving issue that it would be best to hold off on moving the policy forward at this time.
- b. Policy # 202 Eligibility of Non-Resident Students/Policy #202.1 Attendance Eligibility—combine into one policy. Administration is recommending the combination of Policies 202 and 202.1 into

one policy numbered 202-Attendance Eligibility, which will address attendance eligibility for both resident and non-resident students in one location. Language is identical with the exception of one addition to List B of the acceptable items for proof of residency. List B will now include seven items with item 7 stating: “7. Federal or state documentation demonstrating exemption from above six (6) requirements.” Mr. Forsyth stated adding this item will assist in legitimate situations where families enter the district with varying visa types who are not U.S. citizens.

- c. Policy #239 Foreign Exchange Students – Mr. Forsyth stated that administration is proposing a slight change to the policy. Our high schools operate on a semester basis however, as written, the policy only allows foreign exchange students to enter the district for the full school year. We are proposing a fall and/or spring semester option to foreign exchange students. The application deadline for the upcoming fall semester will remain July 1. Language will now include an application deadline of December 1 for the upcoming spring semester. The total number of foreign exchange students per academic year will remain six (6), (*adding* “or the equivalency thereof”). No more than two (2) foreign exchange students shall be (*adding* “simultaneously”) accepted from any one (1) approved program during any one (1) academic year. Students on a J-1 visa are not required to pay tuition; therefore, keeping the total at six (6) or the equivalency thereof, will not incur additional fiscal impact.
- d. Policy #707 Use of Facilities—The committee discussed revising the current fee structure for use of facilities. Mrs. Summers and Mr. Rohner both liked the idea of moving from an hourly rate to either a half day or full day usage charge. They felt that simplicity and consistency was best. Mr. Bader shared a School Facilities Cost Calculator Tool that might assist the district in determining the actual cost of operation for specific rooms/areas when developing the new fee structure. He noted that he would need additional time to tweak this model to see if it would work for the district. It takes into consideration factors such as the defining the classification of various groups and the level of support each would be assigned as well as wages, utilities, debt services, and depreciation. Mr. Bader added that personnel fees will need to be determined on an average basis for the position rather than the individual working the event or whether it was time and a half or double time. The committee discussed the classification of groups, school clubs vs. school feeder programs; school feeder programs open to East Stroudsburg students, such as ESYA and BYA vs. programs offered to other school district students, such as YMCA or FC Pocono. Discussion included mid-week vs. weekend use, elementary vs. secondary school usage, among others. Administration will continue to tweak the model and define the classifications and present their findings at a future meeting.
- e. Policy #823 Naloxone—Mr. Forsyth shared with the committee that at this point appropriate district staff have attended Naloxone training provided by both the healthcare and legal experts. Our School Physician suggested changing the definition in the draft policy from drug overdose to “opiod drug overdose”. Mr Forsyth stated, “I am hesitant to change the definition until I speak with counsel as this is the exact definition that appears in 35 Purdon Statute. Mrs. Sue Cole, School Nurse, added that we need to be sure when submitting application that it specifically states Narcan, as other districts have been denied for this reason. Mr. Forsyth responded that the draft policy states, “including but not limited to *Narcan* intranasal spray”. The current grant program is limited to district high schools but the policy has been written broad enough so that if we choose to expand to additional buildings or if we receive funding through other agencies who utilize other pharmaceutical vendors, we are covered. Mr. Forsyth advised the Board that the Department of Health is offering 2 doses per school. There has been a recent settlement in which several States have received a \$6 discount, but then the price of a single dose has increased by 1000% from \$7.50 to \$750.00 in recent months as well. Also, we are not sure if by 2 doses, they mean 4 aspirations as protocols call for a second dosage if patient does not respond. Naxolone has a two year shelf life; therefore, the Board is looking at an investment of approximately \$15,000 every two years to maintain 2 doses in all 10 buildings. Mr. Rohner asked if, in the past, the district has had any students who have overdosed while in school. Mrs. Cole stated yes, however, it was not an opiod overdose. Mrs. Cole added that Pleasant Valley will not be carrying naxolone under advice from their solicitor’s as this may promote more experimenting with opioids, knowing naxolone is available. Pocono Mountain has expressed the same concern. Mr. Forsyth also noted that

Pennsylvania Physician General Dr. Rachel Levine has issued standing orders for Naxolone to be available to any individual for purchase over-the-counter, and that local authorities have reported there are narc parties where a person, similar to a “designated driver”, is present with Narcan for anyone who might overdose. Unfortunately, the effect of Narcan availability may be backfiring somewhat and causing more experimentation. Mr. Forsyth asked the committee for more time to share the drafted policy with our solicitor.

VIII. POLICIES ON THE TABLE FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

- a. Policy #806 Child Abuse—PSBA Sample Policy sent to counsel for review-Administration will place this policy on the June agenda.

Public Participation: None

VIII. ADVISORY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by Wayne Rohner to authorize and direct the administration to post the following item(s) for PUBLIC REVIEW during the month of May and subsequent Board action in June: Policy #'s 202 Attendance Eligibility and 239 Foreign Exchange Students. Motion was seconded by Robert Huffman and carried unanimously 3-0.

IX. ADVISORY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by Robert Huffman to authorize and direct the administration to take action on the following policies at the May 16, 2016 Board Meeting: Policies #115 Career & Technical Education and 124 Tuition-Based Online Summer School. Motion was seconded by Wayne Rohner and carried unanimously 3-0.

X. NEXT MEETING: June 20, 2016 at 5:00 p.m

XI. ADJOURNMENT: 5:50 p.m.

Respectively submitted by,
Debra Wisotsky