

**EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
July 18, 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 Cooke, Robert Huffman, Wayne Rohner, and Judy Summers.
- III. **School Personnel Present were:** Jeffrey Bader, Eric Forsyth, Frederick Mill, Ryan Moran, Debra Wisotsky, and Dr. William Riker.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by Wayne Rohner to approve the minutes for June 20, 2016 (pages 1-2). Motion was seconded by Robert Huffman and carried unanimously, 4-0.

- V. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by Robert Huffman to approve this agenda for July 18, 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 Wayne Rohner and carried unanimously, 4-0.

- VI. **POLICIES FOR DISCUSSION:**
 - a. Policy #123 Interscholastic Athletics—Mrs. Summers had a question with regard to charter school/home school students and the sentence on page 2 “the privilege of participation may be rescinded for good cause by the Superintendent or designee”. She asked what exactly is meant by “good cause”. Mr. Forsyth stated it could mean, when a student may have moved from the district, truancy, academic and/or behaviors issues, etc. It was decided that the word “good” was not necessary and that it would be removed from the policy. Mr. Rohner inquired as to the statement, “Home and visiting spectators are asked to remain in designated areas.” He expressed concern with this rule not being equitable at both the North and South Campus, specifically with regard to football games and spectators being standing at the fence line. The committee decided to keep this exact language in the policy as it is universal for all sports/events and will develop protocols with regard to district-wide consistency in designating appropriate areas for spectators at specific sports/events. Chief Mill expressed concern with overzealous spectators being too close to the athletes, coaches and referees can pose security issues on the both the home and visiting sides. Administration will meet with Chief Mill and the Athletic Director to develop these protocols.
 - b. Policy #349, 449, 549 Health Insurance Benefits for Retirees—Mr. Bader stated that these policies were being revised to align with current employee contract language. Policies 349,449, 549 will be posted for public review during the month of July with subsequent approval at the August 15 Board meeting.
 - c. Policy #707 Use of Facilities—Mr. Bader shared a proposal for the committee to review. He stated we need guidance from the committee on whether we want to charge facility fees based on capital cost vs. non-capital cost. Do we want to look at a per event or a seasonal charge? We need to

decide on the criteria for the different classifications that each group falls into. Which classifications will be charged facility fees/personnel fees? We need to develop a fee structure that is reasonable but does not place a burden on the taxpayers. It needs to be a policy that, once in place, there needs to be a clause that the Board will not grant any waivers as this puts the district in a difficult position. Mrs. Summers expressed concern with certain out-of-state groups using the facilities and whether the district should be allowing such use, no less waiving fees. The committee asked administration to research other districts in the area and their use of facilities policy/schedule of fees. Administration will develop a model based on current group usage and will discuss again at the August 15 meeting.

- d. Policy #806 Child Abuse—Mr. Forsyth stated that special counsel, Erin Gilsbach, reviewed PSBA’s sample policies with ESASD’s policy and schedule for professional development and has recommended the tracked revisions. Mr. Rohner asked what the district’s procedure is when someone reports suspected abuse. Does there have to be sufficient evidence, otherwise a person can be malicious and want to tear a person down. Mr. Forsyth stated, as per law, the district immediately launches an investigation, reports to the outside child protective services agency, puts in place a supervision plan where someone is with that individual at all times. He stated it can become a lengthy process even after the district’s investigation proves there is no cause or the incident was unfounded, we still need to wait on the outside agency/PDE to issue their report prior to clearing that individual. Mr. Rohner asked, so there is due process? Mr. Forsyth stated yes. He also stated the district covers Policy 806 in trainings and explains that if there is intent to cause damage, criminal charges can ensue. Policy 806 will be posted for public review during the month of July with subsequent approval at the August 15 Board meeting.

VIII. POLICIES ON THE TABLE FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

- a. Policy #113.2 Behavior Support—Administration will review this policy to be sure it aligns Tact II training techniques. He also noted that this policy on applies to Chapter 14, so we may extract it to its own area and assign it a new policy number.
- b. Policy #103.2 Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students—Administration is still waiting on further case law guidance prior to presenting for committee review.
- c. Policy #247 Hazing—Administration will review a recent PSBA sample policy for updated mandates and present at our next meeting
- d. Policies #626 Federal Fiscal Compliance – Administrations will review PSBA sample policies that incorporate requirements of the latest Uniform Grant Guidance

Public Participation: None

VII. ADVISORY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by Robert Huffman to authorize and direct the administration to post the following item(s) for PUBLIC REVIEW during the month of July and subsequent Board action in August: Policy #'s 123 Interscholastic Athletics, 349 Health Insurance Benefits for Retirees-Administrative, 449 Health Insurance Benefits for Retirees-Professional, 549 Health Insurance Benefits for Retirees-Support Staff, 806 Child Abuse. Motion was seconded by Wayne Rohner and carried unanimously 4-0.

VIII. ADVISORY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by Wayne Rohner to authorize and direct the Board to take action on the following policies at the June 20, 2016 Board Meeting: Policy #'s 210 Medications, 216 Student Records, 808 Food Services, 823 Naloxone. Motion was seconded by Robert Cooke and carried unanimously 4-0.

IX. **NEXT MEETING:** August 15, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

X. **ADJOURNMENT:** 5:58 p.m.

ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion to adjourn was made by Wayne Rohner. Motion was seconded by Robert Huffman and carried unanimously, 4-0.

Respectively submitted by,
Debra Wisotsky.