

**EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 17, 2023
CARL T. SECOR ADMINISTRATION CENTER & VIA ZOOM—4:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

- I. Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Debbie Kulick.
- II. **Policy Committee Members Present were:** George Andrews, Debbie Kulick, Jason Gullstrand, and Lisa VanWhy.
- III. **School Personnel Present were:** Fred Mill, William Vitulli, and Debra Wisotsky.
- IV. **Members of the Public Present were:** None
- V. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by George Andrews to approve this agenda for July 17, 2023 (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 Jason Gullstrand and carried unanimously, 3-0.

VI. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by Lisa VanWhy to approve the minutes for March 20, 2023 (pages 1-2). There were no meetings in April, May or June. Motion was seconded by George Andrews and carried unanimously 3-0.

VII. **POLICIES FOR DISCUSSION:**

- a. Policy 251 Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability—Ms. Kulick shared that the one revision to this policy was the deletion of a section on page 11 of 13. Located under Students with Disabilities, we are removing, “Students with an IEP may elect to remain in school until age twenty-one even if the district determines there is an earlier pathway to graduation. Such students may participate in the graduation ceremony with their current class, even if the students elected to remain in school.” Mr. Andrews asked what the reason is for the deletion. Dr. Riker noted that our legal counsel has recommended the district remove this section. As written it says if a student graduates with an IEP this year, and say they are 18, this paragraph would allow them to continue to come to school until the age of 21 at their choice. Mr. Andrews added at a substantial cost to the taxpayers each year. So our legal counsel advised that that is not a paragraph that we want to remain in the policy. Mrs. VanWhy replied, so not all students will stay then. Dr. Riker stated a student with an IEP will still have the opportunity to stay until 21 should they not have met their graduation requirements. This paragraph is saying, if they graduate with their class, they can meet all graduation requirements and they can stay and until their 21. Removing this paragraph does not prevent or prohibit those students who need to be here from staying on through age 21 to meet their requirements. You’re not making that decision by removing this. We are simply saying that if you met the graduation requirements and you participated in graduation, then you have done what you need to do to exit your time here at East Stroudsburg School District.

Administration also shared recent updates to various Administrative Regulations with the committee members. Ms. Kulick read the highlighted revisions. The committee expressed their appreciation that these updates are now included in their policy books.

Public Participation: None

VIII. ADVISORY RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by George Andrews to authorize and direct the administration to post the following item(s) with noted revisions for PUBLIC REVIEW during the month of July and subsequent Board action in August: Policies 251. Motion was seconded by Lisa VanWhy and carried unanimously 3-0.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: 4:41 p.m.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE: Motion to adjourn was made by Lisa VanWhy. Motion was seconded by Jason Gullstrand and carried unanimously, 3-0.

Next meeting: August 21, 2023 at 4:30p.m. in the Carl T. Secor Administration Center.

Respectively submitted by,
Debra Wisotsky