

MINUTES OF THE WBOE POLICY COMMITTEE
Superintendent's Conference Room
February 3, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Williamson called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM.

IN ATTENDANCE: Erin Williamson, Chair (in person), Lynn Piascyk (in person), Steven Lawrence (remote), Board of Education Members; Vonda J. Tencza, Superintendent; and Mary Vincitorio, WEA.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Title IX: Based on recent changes from the CSDE, we do not need to adopt the new 2024 policy language, and we should stay with 2020 policy language. The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) issued [guidance](#) that notes that the Kentucky decision vacated the 2024 Title IX Regulations nationwide. Specifically, in footnote 2 on the last page of the document, OCR states: "*On January 9, 2025, a federal district court issued a decision vacating the 2024 Final Rule. Consistent with the court's order, the 2024 Title IX regulations are not effective in any jurisdiction.*"

School Climate: We have to adopt the *CT School Climate Policy 5131.911* in June. No need for 30-day review and this policy will replace our Bullying policy, 5131.911. There are new climate standards, a new structure which is school-based, new training requirements, new survey requirements, and a strong focus on restorative practices. Next year we will need to adopt a new Restorative Practices policy as well. Administration has completed required trainings on the development of our new school climate plan and on restorative practices. The policy is required to be adopted 'as is' and we are in the process of developing our reporting forms, as the ones suggested by the state are not required, and we do have great ideas on what fits our school needs.

6000 Series - Instruction: Most of the 6000 series appears to have been reviewed in 2014, making this section perhaps a bit easier as the lens is more current.

- No changes were made to Policies 6000 and 6114.
- 6111 – The last paragraph was deleted in its entirety.
- 6114.1 – Remove parentheses around (Drills) in the title and thirty (30) days was changed to (15).
- 6115 – Deferred until it could be determined if local / town guidance was necessary for inclusion or if the reference "10-29a" sufficed.
- 6121 – Clarification would be sought from CABE on whether the legal reference "Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972" should be changed to reflect 2020.
- 6142.10 – In the first paragraph the second sentence was deleted. On the second page, second paragraph, fourth line "his or her" was changed to "their" and in the last paragraph, last sentence "his/her" was changed to "their".
- 6154 – Deferred as Board discussion posed questions regarding the effectiveness of homework as a research-based practice that improves learning and whether the time guidelines were accurate. Board shared previous history with this topic and parent opinions supporting pro and cons of homework. Research will be conducted and input sought from both administration and teachers. It is also possible that this information could be presented at a future Curriculum meeting either in June or the fall.

Policies 6000, 6111, 6114, 6114.1, 6121 and 6142.10 will be submitted to the Board for 30-day review at their February 24, 2025 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Meeting Adjourned: 5:20 PM