

**BOARD OF EDUCATION, NEW FAIRFIELD, CT**  
**Policy Subcommittee Meeting**

Name of Subcommittee: Policy Meeting type: Regular  
Date of Meeting: 11/17/21 Place of Meeting: Zoom  
Members present: Samantha Mannion, Amy Johnson, Stephanie Strazza  
Members absent: Kathy Baker  
Other attendees: Dr. Pat Cosentino  
Minutes submitted by: Stephanie Strazza  
Meeting Access: Policy Subcommittee (11/17/21 at 7 p.m.)  
Web: <https://zoom.us/j/99671586320> Dial In: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 996 7158 6320

The meeting was called to order by Samantha Mannion at 7:03 p.m.  
Samantha Mannion made a motion to elevate Amy Johnson to voting status, seconded by Stephani Strazza, all in favor.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. October 27, 2021 - Regular

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of October 27, 2021, as presented

Made by: Samantha Mannion

Seconded by: Stephanie Strazza

**Recording of Vote:** All in favor

**III. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Policy 6146 – Graduation Requirements - Dr. Cosentino reported that Christine Baldelli and James D'Amico were in favor of the amendments. Samantha suggested "Student's success plans" be edited to state "plan" in singular form - Change all "plans" to "plan" and add a comma after "July 1, 2022." (*See motion below Bylaw 9320*)

B. Policy 6171.2 - Preschool Special Education

**Motion:** To table Policy 6171.2 Preschool Special Education based on further clarification from Melissa Busnel after consultation with the state.

Made by: Samantha Mannion

Seconded by: Stephanie Strazza

**Recording of Vote:** All in favor

C. Bylaw 9320 - Board of Education Meetings - The Policy Subcommittee proposed a change to the bylaw in correspondence with the policy changes. Dr. Cosentino suggested changing the language to reflect "two separate sessions no longer than 15 minutes." Samantha Mannion suggested adding "no more than 30 minutes total for the entire meeting" and taking out the second bylaw reference, only listing it once. Stephanie Strazza raised the issue of running over in the first public comment and not allowing other to speak at the end.

**Motion:** To move Policy 6146 and Bylaw 9320 to the full Board for approval

Made by: Samantha Mannion

Seconded by: Amy Johnson

**Recording of Vote:** All in favor.

D. Bylaw 9350 – Hearings - There is no exemption for an executive session in the language of the policy. The board is bound by current policy under law regardless of the adoption. Samantha Mannion suggested tabling the bylaw until the state amends the language to reflect an exception for executive session, specifically expulsion hearings.

**IV. INFORMATION ITEMS – none**

**V. OTHER** – Samantha Mannion reminded us about Rick Regan bringing up board member communications. Emails are not replied to under "reply all" or often, people don't reply at all. Revise the policy under board member policy. Dr. Cosentino suggested that having a secretary respond as

received. Samantha reiterated the need for transparency in email responses. Pat suggested discussing this at our next meeting, and she will tell Gail. Amy agreed with the changes.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn:** Made by: Samantha Mannion

Seconded by: Amy Johnson

**Recording of vote:** All in favor

**Meeting adjourned at:** 7:35 p.m.