BOARD OF EDUCATION, NEW FAIRFIELD, CT
Policy Subcommittee Meeting

Name of Subcommittee: Policy Meeting type: Regular
Date of Meeting: 10/28/26 Place of Meeting: Zoom
Members present: Kathy Baker, Samantha Mannion, Amy Johnson
Members absent: Kim LaTourette,
Other attendees: Ken Craw
Minutes submitted by: Michelle Delcourt
Meeting Access: **Policy Subcommittee (10/28/26 at 7 p.m.)**
Web: https://zoom.us/j/91632246584
Dial In: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 916 3224 6584

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 23, 2026 - Regular

Motion: To approve the minutes of September 23, 2026, as presented
Made by: Kathy Baker Seconded by: Samantha Mannion
Recording of Vote: All in favor

III. INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS

A. New Business

1. **5000 Series Policy review & update process-** Dr. Craw shared two potential options for updating the boards policies starting with the 5000 Series.

Option 1- To update existing Connecticut Association of Boards Education (CABE) Policies older than 10 years on a policy-by-policy basis. Currently there are approximately 30 policies requiring review and the process would span several years.

Option 2- Adopt Shipman and Goodwin Policies: Adopt the complete up-to-date policy compendium provided by legal counsel; Shipman & Goodwin in a single transition. This approach focuses primarily on legal liability and compliance, resulting in few policies overall

The committee discussed implications of both options including: retaining CABE policies that are critical for the district, technical hosting requirements and integration and transition costs, annual fee structures and staff implementation.

Committee determined that further information was needed before proceeding with individual 5000 series policy reviews.

Motion: to table the review of the following polices pending a meeting with a representative from Shipman & Goodwin and further discussion regarding the policy manual transition:

Policy 5000 (series overview/general)
Policy 5111.1: Foreign Exchange Students
Policy 5121: Examination/ grading / Rating
Policy 5131.11: Video Cameras on School Buses
Policy 5131.61: Co-Curricular Policy Concerning Drugs and Alcohol Use by Students
Policy 5131. 62: Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco, and Steroid Use

Made by: Samantha Mannion Seconded by: Kathleen Baker
Recording of Vote: All in favor

B. Old Business

1. Policy 5114- Suspension and Expulsion (K-2 Out-of-School Suspension Language)- Dr. Craw presented an updated state-mandated language for Policy 5114, which establishes that out-of-school suspensions for K-2 students are restricted to cases involving "serious physical harm."
   Key points of discussion include lack of specific statutory definition for the term "serious". Committee has concerns regarding ambiguous enforcement, subjective definitions, and intent vs. result in student behavior. Administrative flexibility to utilize in-school suspensions up to five days when out of school threshold is met. And lastly the low historical rate of K-2 suspensions with the district.

Motion: to move forward policy 5114 (Suspension and Expulsion) to the full Board of Education for consideration**.**
Made by: Samantha Mannion **Seconded by:** Kathleen Baker
Recording of Vote: All in favor

IV. OTHER BUSINESS / FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. Kindergarten Entry Age / Age of Attendance Policy: Dr. Craw & Kristine Woleck noted that an updated Age of Attendance policy will be brought to the next meeting to align with the statutory changes prior to kindergarten registration.

B. Policy Transition next steps: Dr. Craw will arrange for a Shipman and Goodwin representative to attend an upcoming policy meeting. Provide contact details for another Connecticut school district that successfully transitioned to Shipman and Goodwin Policies and finally research full cost implications: technical hosting/platform options.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Made by: Samantha Mannion **Seconded by:** Amy Johnson
Recording of vote: All in favor **Meeting adjourned at:** 7:46p.m.