

School District of the City of Saginaw
MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
550 Millard Street, Saginaw, Michigan 48607 (989)399-6500
September 9, 2024 – 5:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mrs. Joyce Seals:

1. **Committee Members Present:** Mrs. Joyce Seals (Chair)
Mr. Kevin Mark Rooker (Absent)
Mrs. Mattie Thompson

Board Members Present: Mrs. Janet Nash (Absent)
Dr. Charles Coleman
Ms. Ruth Ann Knapp
Ms. Vera Harrison

Central Administration Staff: Dr. Ramont Roberts

2. **Approval of Minutes**

Mrs. Seals asked Board members if there were any additions or subtractions to the minutes from July 9, 2024. No additions/subtractions made. Mrs. Seals motioned to carry, Ms. Harrison moved to accept and Mrs. Thompson supported.

A voice vote was taken with the following results.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 – Motion Carried

3. **Policy Updates**

Policy #3112 – Board-Staff Communications

Mrs. Nash expressed concern about the term “unethical conduct” in Policy #3112 and has heard from other people who stated they were intimidated by this verbiage. When someone comes to speak with a Board member, she will refer them to the chain of command as appropriate if they are an employee. If they are a constituent and an employee, she believes they need to be heard without being written up for unethical conduct.

Mrs. Seals confirmed we should listen as a courtesy, but important to make an assessment that needs to be redirected to the Superintendent. Mrs. Seals added the Board should not get involved in grievances.

Ms. Knapp is concerned that a person was told they were unethical for talking to the Board member and was written up for being unethical.

Dr. Roberts encouraged Ms. Knapp to speak with him personally about the situation as he has no knowledge about it.

Dr. Roberts stated the policy is appropriate and the policy is referring to when employees are trying to circumvent the system by going to a Board member directly versus following the protocol. The language is from Neola to protect us as an organization.

Ms. Knapp asked if there were administrative guidelines for this policy. Dr. Roberts stated he would look into it. Ms. Knapp and Dr. Roberts will meet at a separate time.

Policy #4112 – Board-Staff Communications

This policy is very similar to Policy 3112. Policy 3112 is for Professional Staff and Policy 4112 is for Board members.

Policy #2264 -Title IX – Second Reading. Mrs. Seals suggested if the reading could not be completed by 6:00 pm, that it will be finished at Wednesday’s meeting.

Error found on page 12 under paragraph entitled “Notice of Nondiscrimination” in the sentence beginning with “Specifically, the Superintendent shall post the notice of discrimination” ... needs to be changed from discrimination to non-discrimination.

Reading of this policy concluded on page 17 and will finalize reading the remaining pages at Wednesday’s meeting.

Ms. Gorte made the changes and submitted the policy to Neola on October 5, 2024.

4. Public/Union Comments

Mr. Jeffrey Bulls presented his concerns to the Board regarding his son, Jordan Bulls, who attended AHHS and was set to go to Saginaw United. The district sent out communication for students who were short in credits and needed to attend summer school. He received the communication and attended summer school and was told by staff he completed his requirements and did not miss a day. Took the staff at their word and on the first day of school and Jordan’s name was not on the list and crushing to him as he thought he had completed all requirements. Mr. Bulls stated he made a fuss at the door and took his son to Success Academy. While at Success, was told by the principal and the staff that his son was jumped by 2 other students. Feels the chain of events should not have happened and feels his son should have been able to attend Saginaw United. Asking for an investigation into Success Academy and feels that kids who have credit issues should not be put into a school with troublesome students. He pulled his student out of Success Academy due to him being hurt. Email and phone number are on the card he filled out and requests a remedy regarding his credits that stopped him from returning to Saginaw United.

Dr. Roberts and his staff will investigate and contact Mr. Bulls with their decision.

No union comments.

5. Final Board Comments

Mrs. Seals – Thankful for Mr. Bulls coming to speak with the Board. Thanks to the Superintendent for supporting the Latino event where 125 people showed up and looking to increase that number. Looking at May 17th for next years’ event and to use Success Academy again. This event has been successful for two years in a row and well received in the Latino community.

Ms. Nash – Thankful for the successful opening to all staff for another school year. Grateful for all the hard work done. Some snags with opening the new building and overall did a great job.

Ms. Thompson – Thanks to Superintendent and staff for all the hard work. She visited several schools and enjoyed seeing all the excited faces.

Ms. Knapp – Attended 3 schools and all did a super job. Great addition to the new signs. Confident all glitches will be resolved.

Dr. Roberts – Great to see all students returning and thanks to all staff. Continuing to transform into the 21st century school district we promised our community we would become. With the amount of transformation, we are doing excellent. With all the moving, construction, building on sites, demolishing sites, laying parking lots and new curriculum, we are doing a great job with continuing the transformation. Thanks to all the Board members, staff, students and parents for their help.

Dr. Coleman - Dr. Roberts and he discussed how many balls were being juggled and the amount of things that went on this summer to get us to opening day was huge and wants to commend Dr. Roberts and his staff for all their work. We are open to hearing about the glitches and willing to solve them. Dr. Coleman is concerned about the welfare of our students. Dr. Coleman wants our community to consider the safety of our students and to help us to keep our students safe. Thoughts and prayers for the killings that took place in Georgia on 9/4/2024.

Dr. Roberts stated it will be 20 years since we put in metal detectors. Detroit Free Press called after recent shootings and we are only one of two schools that have metal detectors in the State of Michigan.

6. Announcement of Next Meeting

TBD

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Submitted by: Jamie Gorte