



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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**TO: Members, Board of Education
Dr. Albert Roberts, Superintendent**

FROM: Chris Jasculca

RE: Adoption of Policies

DATE: April 26, 2011

During its meeting on April 12, 2011, the District 97 Board of Education conducted a first reading of the following policies:

- Policy 0167.3 – Public Participation at Board Meetings
- Policy 0168.1 – Open Meeting
- Policy 1430.01 – Family and Medical Leaves of Absence
- Policy 2260 – Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity
- Policy 2260.01 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability
- Policies 3121 and 4121 – Criminal History Check
- Policies 3122 and 4122 – Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity
- Policies 3437.01 and 4437.01 – Family Military Leave
- Policy 5111.02 – Homeless Students
- Policy 5111.04 – Educational Opportunity for Military Children

The committee obtained additional information about these policies from the district's Neola representative, Neola's director of legal research, Superintendent Al Roberts and members of the district's Administrative Leadership team to ensure they are legally compliant and in alignment with the district's role and responsibilities to deliver a high-quality education to the children of Oak Park. The policies were e-mailed to the Board of Education on March 25, 2011. Board members were asked to submit questions, comments and suggested revisions to the committee by April 4, 2011.

In response to the questions and comments submitted by the board members via e-mail and at the meeting on April 12, minor stylistic and grammatical revisions were made to several of the policies in this group. Slightly more substantive changes were made to policies 2260 (Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity) and 2260.01 (Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability). These revisions include:

Policy 2260 – Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity

- Section A (curriculum content) was changed from:

review current and proposed courses of study and textbooks to detect any bias based upon race, color, gender, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, or culture; ascertaining whether or not supplemental materials, singly or taken as a whole, fairly depict the contribution of both genders, various races, ethnic groups, etc. toward the development of human society;

to:

review current and proposed courses of study and textbooks to detect any bias based upon race, color, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, national origin, ancestry, or culture; ascertaining whether or not supplemental materials, singly or taken as a whole, fairly depict the contribution of both genders, various races, ethnic groups, etc. toward the development of human society;

- Section B (staff training) was changed from:

develop an ongoing program of in-service training for school personnel designed to identify and solve problems of color/racial, gender, religious, national, cultural, or other bias in all aspects of the program;

to:

develop an ongoing program of in-service training for school personnel designed to identify and solve problems of color/racial, gender, sexual orientation, religious, national, age, cultural, or other bias in all aspects of the program;

- The age range featured in the last paragraph of the policy was changed from 3-14 to 3-22 based on a recommendation from Neola's director of legal research. She said that while it may be unlikely District 97 will ever encounter a situation where it will need to provide services for an individual in his/her late teens or early 20s, state law does require public school districts to make these services available to students up to the age of 22. In addition, there have been several cases in local districts where schools have provided services for students enrolled in eighth grade who are 15, 16 or 17 years old.

Policy 2260.01 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability

- On page three of the policy, the curriculum coordinator will replace the assistant superintendent of teaching and learning as one of the Section 504 Compliance Officers/ADA Coordinators for the district since the district's assistant superintendent of teaching and learning position was eliminated in March 2011.

Attached are the policies that feature recommended changes from the committee. Revised versions of existing district policies are printed in a standard District 97 format. Revised versions of new policies from Neola are printed on the company's letterhead, and feature handwritten changes in accordance with the company's procedures. All of these policies were made available for review by the general public via the Policies/Publications page (<http://www.op97.k12.il.us/boe/policies.html>) on the district's Web site.

The policies are being presented to the board tonight for adoption.

Attachments:

- Policy 0167.3 – Public Participation at Board Meetings
- Policy 0168.1 – Open Meeting
- Policy 1430.01 – Family and Medical Leaves of Absence
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- Policy 2260.01 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability
- Policies 3121 and 4121 – Criminal History Check
- Policies 3122 and 4122 – Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity
- Policies 3437.01 and 4437.01 – Family Military Leave
- Policy 5111.02 – Homeless Students
- Policy 5111.04 – Educational Opportunity for Military Children