

GRESHAM-BARLOW SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 JT.

Board Policy Review Committee Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2025

The Gresham-Barlow Policy Review Committee held a meeting on Friday, September 12, 2025, in the Large Conference Room of the Gresham-Barlow School District, 1331 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham, Oregon. The meeting was convened at 8:00 a.m. The opportunity for virtual attendance via Zoom was provided for this meeting.

Policy Review Committee members in attendance were Board of Directors members Kris Howatt and Holly Riegelmann. District administration in attendance included Deputy Superintendent John Koch. Other district staff in attendance included Sarah Avery.

The following policies were on the agenda to be reviewed at the meeting:

Policy	Title
JFCEB	Personal Electronic Devices
FF	Naming of New Facilities
IKFA	Early Graduation
IKFB	Graduation Exercises

Chair Howatt called the meeting to order and introduced the policies they will go over. She noted that this group is an advisory committee that makes recommendations to the board.

Policy FF – Naming of New Facilities

The group decided to wait on discussing this policy until all committee members were in attendance. They will bring this back to a future policy committee meeting.

Policy JFCEB – Personal Electronic Devices

Mr. Koch shared that from the admin perspective they have been down this road and didn't have a lot of input to provide for this policy. They have received about 20 requests for exemptions to use cell phones. The committee took time to review the policy, and were informed that the AR is also available for their review.

Committee members asked if any student leadership groups or equity advisory groups were asked about the policy. Mr. Koch shared that due to the short timeline, they weren't able to do that before the start of the school year. Committee members expressed concern about getting student voice. Mr. Koch shared that they can talk to the secondary principals to get that input. Middle schools had policies in place already, and while it has been a change for the high schools, they haven't seen the conflicts. They are working through issues with

athletics and getting released early. Currently, if students are dismissed early, they are allowed to use their phone because they are finished with instructional time.

The committee discussed removing the bracketed footnote that referenced using cell phone pouches for storing devices. They discussed which bracketed language they wanted to use in the policy. Mr. Koch shared instances when a phone may get confiscated in a class. If a student has been warned in 1st period, there is not a way to notify their 4th period teacher of this during the day. This means some teachers are confiscating the phone on a first offense.

The committee asked how staff members are modeling this since the policy is saying it is not good to have a phone attached at all times. Mr. Koch shared that they have asked staff to use their devices less, but reminded them that this is not an adult rule and many staff members have to use their phones as part of their job. Committee members stressed having consistency for when taking a device away is enforced. The committee will move this policy forward to the September 18, 2025 Work Session.

Policy IKFA – Early Graduation *(Delete)*

This policy is being recommended for deletion because it has been included in Policy IKF as of last year. It will move forward to the next work session to be considered for deletion.

Policy IKFB – Graduation Exercises

Committee members discussed how to ensure there is not cultural appropriation for Native American items of cultural significance. They expressed concern over how they would enforce this. They decided to leave in the language for bracketed footnote 1. They will also include the bracketed language on page 2 for items of cultural significance. This policy will move forward to the September 18, 2025 Work Session.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Submitted by: Sarah Avery