

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

Name of Subcommittee: Policy Meeting type: Special  
Date of Meeting: 5/30/24 Place of Meeting: Zoom  
Members present: Kathy Baker (*joined at 7:25 p.m.*), Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion  
Members absent: Amy Johnson  
Other attendees: Kris Woleck, Paul Gouveia, Sue Huwer, Ed Sbordone  
Minutes submitted by: Kimberly LaTourette  
Meeting Access: Meeting Access: Policy Subcommittee (5/30/24 at 7:00 p.m.) Web:  
https://zoom.us/j/97466663871 Dial In: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 974 6666 3871

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.  
Samantha Mannion made a motion to elevate Ed Sbordone to a voting member tonight. Kim LaTourette seconded. All in favor.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. May 1, 2024 – Special

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the May 1, 2024, meeting as presented

Made by: Samantha Mannion

Seconded by: Kim LaTourette

**Recording of Vote:** All in favor

**III. INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS**

A. Increasing Educator Diversity Presentation - Dr. Craw discussed the new legislation and the district plan for how to address this. There are goals and detailed action steps in the documentation (report for the State) attached. Dr. Kris Woleck and Dr. Craw gave a presentation that included information about the student demographics and our educators, the Public Act to increase educator diversity and the plan, the change in the title of the policy, our theory of action, the recruitment plan, hiring plan, and plan for retention. This will take some time to implement and we will continue to expand on strategies that we are already using and put back into place strategies that we had in the past, with a specific focus on increasing diversity. Samantha mentioned a minority fellowship program that some colleges use.

B. Policy 4111.3 – Increasing Educator Diversity - This is the policy from CABE ("Increasing Educator Diversity") that we will review and would replace the "Minority Recruitment Plan."

**Motion:** To move the Increasing Educator Diversity Plan and Policy 4111.3 Increasing Educator Diversity to the full Board for consideration

Made by: Samantha Mannion

Seconded by: Ed Sbordone

**Recording of Vote:** All in favor

Susan Huwer asked if the union had any issues/concerns with this and if the last one hired would still be the one to be let go if there were cuts. She also asked if there were any additional costs associated with implementing this plan. Dr. Craw mentioned that it should remain mostly neutral, possibly more advertisement cost for recruiting, and any other costs would be brought in front of the board. He said that this is an unfunded mandate, and we are properly budgeted to implement this plan. Sue expressed her dislike of the policy and plan and hope that we hire the best candidate regardless of their skin color, religion, race...

C. Policy 3453 – School Activity Account - Carrie DePuy and Dr. Craw presented this policy and their thoughts in updating this policy and making revisions. There was some discussion about how long the district should hold onto and maintain class funds. We are hoping to make it more clear about where the fees/dues go and how they are used. There was a

discussion of the senior class voting at the end of the school year on how the funds can be used. There was a discussion about how the funds could be used/transferred.

**Motion:** To table Policy 3453 - School Activity Account and bring it back for the next meeting after some rewriting and revisions

Made by: Samantha Mannion

Seconded by: Kim LaTourette

**Recording of Vote:** All in favor

D. Policy 5118 – Nonresident Students - Residency Policy Update - Paul Gouveia discussed adding this one form into the policy. After going through this process, he is able to pinpoint some weaknesses that need to be addressed. Adding a notary to a legal residency form may help strengthen this policy. We have found that people are intentionally working the system and filling out forms fraudulently and forging "landlord" signatures. Penalties are also included for anyone who is dishonest.

**Motion:** To move the Policy 5118 with the attachment of form 3 to the full board, and request to suspend the rules. Kathy Baker seconded.

Some revisions were discussed and will be made.

All in favor.

Made by: Samantha Mannion

Seconded by: Kathy Baker

**Recording of Vote:** All in favor

E. Elementary School Structure - Dr. Craw discussed the consolidation of the two elementary schools under one name. This is the policy that mentions renaming. Allyson Story will be bringing information to the full board on June 6th in regards to the focus groups and receiving some input to the new name. A name that we may recommend is "New Fairfield Elementary School." This was shared as information and will be discussed and possibly voted on at the June 6th regular meeting.

#### **V. INFORMATION ITEMS – None**

#### **VI. OTHER – None**

#### **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**Seconded by:** Kimberly LaTourette

**Recording of vote:** All in favor

**Meeting adjourned at:** 8:26 p.m.