

The minutes presented within this document are a summary of the discussion that took place at the Policy Committee Meeting. To view the meeting in its entirety please go to: [5/28/25 Policy Meeting Recording](#).



Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2025

A Bristol Board of Education Regular Policy Committee meeting was held on May 28, 2025, in the BoE Room 36 and via the Zoom meeting platform.

PRESENT: Committee members: Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Maria Simmons, Lori Osenkowski

ALSO, PRESENT: Superintendent Iris White, Deputy Mary Hawk

1. **Call to Order:**
The meeting was called to order at 6:01 P.M.
2. **Approval of Minutes:**
On a motion by Commissioner Osenkowski and seconded by Commissioner Simmons, the April 23, 2025, minutes were approved.
3. **Public Comment:**
There was no public comment this evening.
4. **Overview of Rotary Club's International Exchange Program:**
Lyman Louis and John Cassidy spoke on behalf of the Rotary Club about their exchange student program. They proposed that the BOE change Policy 6145.6 by removing the tuition requirement for exchange students attending BPS.
5. **Discussion/Possible Action Item: Policy 6145.6 Instruction, Travel and Exchange Programs, Foreign Exchange Students attending BPS:**
On a motion by Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula and seconded by Commissioner Simmons, it was recommended that Policy 6145.6 be moved to the full board and that the language be changed to waive the tuition assessment for one year to allow an exchange student to attend BPS. Additionally, these questions need to be answered for the future change of this policy, such as: What is the fee for? What does the fee cover? And, is there a model policy for an exchange program?

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6. **Discussion and possible action on P5131.911 Connecticut School Climate Policy:**
Jody Goehler from CABA spoke to this item. He made clear that it's not a bullying policy; this policy is about how to keep and maintain a positive school climate. Deputy Hawk also spoke to this item and stated all that we currently have in place at our schools and all items that we comply with. She recommends moving this policy to the full board to adopt the mandated policy. On a motion by Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula and seconded by Commissioner Osenkowski, Policy 5131.911 will be moved to the full board for discussion and adoption of this mandated policy.
7. **Policy 5114: CABA Model Policy:**
On a motion by Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula and seconded by Commissioner Osenkowski, this item will be moved to the August policy meeting.
8. **Adjournment:**
Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula adjourned the Policy Committee meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Submitted by:
Michelle L. Crowley
Recording Secretary
Bristol Board of Education