

*The minutes presented within this document summarize the discussion of the Policy Committee meeting. To view the meeting in its entirety and hear full reports, please click the following link: [Oct 22, 25 - Policy Committee Meeting](#) Passcode: 2Jc5b%Qz*



**Policy Committee Minutes  
October 22, 2025**

A Bristol Board of Education Regular Policy Committee meeting was held on October 22, 2025, at 6:00 P.M in the BoE Auditorium and via the Zoom meeting platform.

**PRESENT:** Chair Shelby Pons, Commissioners: Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Maria Simmons, Lorianne Osenkowski, Kristen Giantonio

**ALSO, PRESENT:** Mary Hawk, Iris White, Carly Fortin, Joseph Grabowski and Jodi Bond (Virtual)

**1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The Policy committee voted to approve the August 27, 2025 and September 24, 2025, Policy Committee Meeting Minutes.

**3. Public Comments**

Edward Linsky expressed his support for the placement of armed security guards in Bristol Public Schools.

Deana DeJesus expressed her support for the placement of armed security guards in Bristol Public Schools but had concerns of which authorities will be allowed to be armed.

Eric Verrone expressed his concerns about having armed security guards in Bristol Public Schools.

Eric Boniotto expressed his concerns about having armed security guards in Bristol Public Schools.

**4. Brief check in on Policy audit status and plan for remaining mandates identified in audit that are listed below**

- a. Policy 5144.12 - Restorative justice practices was adopted in March of 2024
- b. Policy 4212.42 - Drug and Alcohol testing for bus driver
- c. Policy 4113.12- Minimum Duty-free lunch periods for teachers and other certified staff
- d. Policy 3542.43- Charging Policy Food Service
- e. Policy 3542.41-Food service personnel Professional Standards

Motion made by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula and second by Maria Simmons to identify a Special Policy meeting for Policy Audit status

**5. Discussion/Revision – Policy 5142.41 – Armed Security Guards**

Deputy Hawk opened the discussion of Policy 5141.41 – Armed Security Guards to the Policy Committee.

This policy was written by CABE. It defines the armed security officer as a sworn member of an organization's local police department or retired police officer to provide security services in a public school. If such a person will possess a firearm well in the performance of his or her duties. Such retired police officers shall receive annual training pursuant of Section 7-294X.

The security officer's role is to respond swiftly and cooperatively to major disturbances and serious criminal offenses on campus, such as disorderly conduct by a trespasser or the possession and use of a weapon.

This discussion was also discussed with the Bristol Public Police, if this policy passes, they will allow all training to go through Bristol Public Police.

The title of Policy 5142.41 – *Armed Security Guards* shall be revised to Policy 5142.41 – *Armed Security Officers* to more accurately reflect the duties and responsibilities of the personnel covered under this policy.

Questions and discussion regarding ongoing training, qualifications, and feedback from other Connecticut Schools of having armed security guards.

Motion made by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula and second by Maria Simmons for full board approval

**6. Discussion/Revision - Policy 6141.52: Challenging Curriculum**

Motion made by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula and second by Maria Simmons to identify a Special Policy meeting for Discussion/Revision - Policy 6141.52: Challenging Curriculum

**7. Discussion/Revision -Policy 6172.1: Gifted and Talented Students**

Motion made by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula and second by Maria Simmons to identify a Special Policy meeting for Discussion/Revision -Policy 6172.1: Gifted and Talented Students

**8. Discussion/revision- Policy 6145.2 Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities**

Fortin opens the discussion on eligibility to participate in extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

Middle school administrators propose removing the standard of conduct from eligibility rules to align with high school policy, which focuses only on academics. Misbehavior can still limit participation case by case, but removing the standard of conduct prevents students from losing eligibility due to a report card mark. The goal is to keep students connected and supported through extracurricular activities.

Questions and discussion followed regarding aligning policy towards high school and grade conduct

Motion made by Jill Fitzsimons-Bula and second by Maria Simmons for full board approval.

**9. Adjournment**

Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula adjourned the Policy Committee meeting at 7:03 P.M

Respectfully Submitted,



Recording Secretary  
Bristol Board of Education