



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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

FROM: Policy Committee – Amy Felton, James Gates and Chris Jasculca

RE: Adoption of Policies

DATE: June 11, 2013

During its meeting on May 28, 2013, the District 97 Board of Education conducted a first reading of the following policies:

- Policy 5:80 – Court Duty
- Policy 6100 – Finance Goals and Objectives
- Policy 8:20 – Community Use of School Facilities

In response to the questions and comments submitted by the board members via e-mail and at the meeting on May 28, revisions were made to policies 6100 (Finance Goals and Objectives) and 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities). These revisions include:

- Policy 6100 (Finance Goals and Objectives) – In addition to the recommended revisions from the Finance Oversight Review Committee (FORC), which are featured in yellow highlighted text on <https://v3.boardbook.org/Public/PublicItemDownload.aspx?ik=33856515>, a board member suggested that the following two items be added to the final section at the bottom of page two to help align the policy with the district's current standards and practices.

4. Make partial or complete payment of bond and interest working cash and abate some or all of the bond and interest levy.

5. Levy less than the maximum allowed under tax caps.

At the board's request, the additional changes were presented to FORC for review/feedback during its meeting on June 5, 2013. The members of the committee supported the inclusion of item five as written. However, they recommended changing the language in item four to:

4. Pay all or some of annual debt payments and abate some or all of bond and interest levy.

Therese O'Neill, the assistant superintendent for finance and operations, shared the revised version of number four and the original version of number five with Liz Hennessey from William Blair & Company. Ms. Hennessey supported the suggestion to include both of these changes in the revised version of the policy that is being presented tonight for adoption. FYI – once this policy has been approved by the board, the committee will send it to PRESS with the request that it be assigned a new number and be added to the district's manual.

- Policy 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities) – A board member noted that inclusion of the language “the use of school facilities for school purposes has precedence over all other uses” in the third sentence of the first paragraph of the policy and “local governments are granted the use of school facilities at not cost” in the first sentence of the second paragraph of the policy do not align with the district's current practices—

more specifically, the practices outlined in the district's intergovernmental agreement with the Park District of Oak Park. In an effort to bring this policy into alignment with district practices, the policy committee is recommending that the second sentence of the first paragraph be changed from:

The use of school facilities for school purposes has precedence over all other uses.

to:

The use of school facilities for school purposes has precedence over all other uses unless those other uses have been approved by the District via a written agreement with a local government or other organization that is not affiliated with the school or District.

The committee is also recommending that the first sentence of the second paragraph be changed from:

Student groups and school-related organizations and local governments are granted the use of school facilities at no cost.

to:

Student groups and school-related organizations may be granted the use of school facilities at no cost.

Our contact from the Illinois Association of School Board's Policy Reference Education Subscription Service (PRESS) said she does not believe the changes to policy 8:20 are substantive enough that they would prohibit the organization from continuing to legally stand behind it.

The board did not recommend any additional revisions be made to policy 5:80 (Court Duty) beyond what was presented by the policy committee on May 28, which was to change the second paragraph from:

"The District will deduct any fees that an employee receives for such duties, less mileage and meal expenses, from the employee's compensation, or make arrangements for the employee to endorse the fee check to the District."

to:

"The District will not deduct any fees that an employee receives for such duties from the employee's compensation."

This change will ensure that the policy is aligned with the district's current practices and the collective bargaining agreements we have with our employee groups.

Attached are the policies that are being presented tonight for adoption. The recommended changes referenced above are handwritten on the documents. All of these policies have been made available for review by the general public via the Policies/Publications page (<http://www.op97.org/board-of-education/Policy-Committee.cfm>) on the district's Web site.

Attachments:

- Policy 5:80 (Court Duty)
- Policy 6100 (Finance Goals and Objectives)
- Policy 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)