

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the Superintendent of Schools
106 Hancock Road, Peterborough, NH 03458-1197

POLICY COMMITTEE

January 8, 2019
SAU Finch Room
6:00 PM

Minutes

Committee Members:

Rich Cahoon – Chair, Janine Lesser, Kristen Reilly, Crista Salamy, Jerry Wilson, Stephan Morrissey, Myron Steere, Kimberly Saunders, Ann Forrest

Attendees: Rich Cahoon, Stephan Morrissey, Janine Lesser, Jerry Wilson, Kristen Reilly, Crista Salamy, Myron Steere, Kimberly Saunders, Ann Forrest

1. Call to Order & Approval of December 18, 2018 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:01. Motion to accept the minutes as written made by Stephan Morrissey; seconded by Janine Lesser. Unanimous.

2. Policies to the Board:

The following policies will be presented for a second read at tonight's Board meeting:

- a) BEC: Non-Public Sessions
- b) BEDG: Minutes
- c) BHC/GBD: Board-Employee Communications
- d) CHCA: Approval of Handbooks and Directives
- e) JFAB: Admission of Tuition of Nonresident Students

3. Policies for Discussion

Returning:

- a) IHBG: Home Education – Returning for further discussion. The Superintendent asked if we want homes schooled students to have ala cart curriculum. She can determine what we offer by creating the Procedure for this policy. The more welcoming we are, the more likely that those students will eventually enroll in the district. Presently, we get no adequacy monies for home educated students.

We rarely deny a request for a home educated student to enter school for a specific class or classes. However, most request to attend specials. Sometimes attendance is the deciding factor when a parent chooses to home educate.

Rich Cahoon noted the problem is the policy allows for a continuous revolving door. Crista Salamy asked to hear Dr. Forrest's point of view. Dr. Forrest feels we should let them attend, regardless of whether it's one class or four classes. We have a policy that states a parent can remove a child

from a class if they have an issue with the curriculum. There are many successful home education families; however, most of these kids come from well-to-do families with college educated parents, who can also hire professional instructors if needed.

Students also have access to VLACS. We don't want to push more people out. These families are still paying taxes even if we do not get adequacy money for them. What happens if they only want to come to one class and stay for lunch and we run in to behavior issues? The Superintendent wants to develop a really solid program for home educated families. Rich Cahoon asked what the legal line is. We cannot deny them from playing sports. Ms. Saunders feels it has more to do with space limitations. We have not surveyed home school families in over a decade. Families can ask to attend a school other than their home town school (elementary and middle only).

The group agreed with Stephan Morrissey's suggestion to provide as open a campus as possible for home educated students. He indicated he likes the idea for the home education program that the Superintendent wants to initiate. Rich Cahoon would like to make sure these kids have access to the same curriculum that we use in our classrooms. However, we do not always have enough to share. We could include this information as part of the ConVal Home-School Education Connection. We would not provide a Chromebook, or other tools, presently.

ACTION: We will hold for additional work from the Superintendent.

b) IMBA: Distance Education – Returning for further discussion

Rich Cahoon asked what happens when a student who requires educational supports in their home class, and then they want to take a distance class. We have some support available in the library.

ACTION: Send for a 1st read for next January meeting.

c) EFDA: Overdue Accounts --- first policy to discuss.

The Superintendent would like to limit how high the threshold can be, and then have the authority to do something about it.

If we have a threshold, she would like, "as you see fit, considering the ability to pay, or mitigating circumstances. Is \$50.00 the threshold we want? In some instances the monies owed are not "overdue" food accounts. Rich Cahoon suggested putting others monies due such as Chromebook or vandalism, be put in another policy. We discussed withholding a diploma.

The Superintendent indicated that walking at graduation is not a right. We cannot withhold a diploma, but we can prevent them from walking. Once a payment agreement is signed, we can then send them to collections, if need be.

We have a \$52K food service debt, which we have not yet resolved. We will pay it by the end of the year. We need to put a cumulative clause in both policies. (Not sure what the second policy is that discusses this loss.)

How do we handle deliberate vandalism? The Superintendent is more concerned about when setting up the payment arrangements; she wants to set them up with the parents, and not with the student (who is a minor).

We will have a threshold for all accounts. Can our vendor bill overdue accounts? Are there service fees involved and if so, who pays them, the District of the parent/student. Are we willing to pay the percentage?

The Superintendent wants to speak with Principals and Facilities before she determines the threshold.

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 motion by Stephan Morrissey, seconded by Janine Lesser.

New Policies for Discussion:

- a) JJJ: Access to Public School Programs by Nonpublic, Charter School, and Home Educated Pupils
The NHSBA changed the category from Optional to Recommended. Additional Legal References have also been made. Both the NHSBA and ConVal versions are included in this packet.

Pending from Past Meetings: Status Report -- They are not included in this packet but will appear on a future agenda.

- d) STA Kindergarten Drop-off Procedure: under review by Legal and Bus Company
- e) EEAG – Use of Private Vehicles on School Business: Changed “teacher’s to “employees” in paragraph two. The Superintendent wants to discuss Legal’s edits with Dean Eggart.
- f) ILD & ILD-R: Non-Educational/Non-Academic Questionnaires, Surveys, and Research – pulled pending further research.
- g) JLD: Guidance Counselors: awaiting feedback from Legal

5. Strategic Plan Related Policies: Not in this packet

The following policies fall under the Assessment category for the Strategic Plan and will first go before the **Education Committee**. They are not included in this packet but will appear on a future agenda.

- a) IGA: Curriculum Development
- b) IHBH: Extended Learning Opportunities
- c) IHBI: Alternative Learning Plans
- d) IK: Earning of Credit
- e) ILBA: Assessment of Educational Programs
- f) ILBAA: High School Competency Assessments
- g) IMBC: Alternative Credit Options

Communications Committee:

- a) Community Partnerships: KCB;

6. Next Meeting: January 22, 2019