

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
106 Hancock Road
Peterborough, New Hampshire**

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

5:45 PM

Location: SAU Finch Conference Room

Minutes

Committee Members: Crista Salamy (Chair), Tom Burgess, Katherine Heck, Kevin Pobst, Doug Sutherland, Janine Lesser

1. Call to order

Crista Salamy called the meeting to order at 5:52 p.m.

2. Approval of the January 3, 2023 Minutes

Doug Sutherland moved to approve the minutes of January 3, 2023. Janine Lesser seconded. Katherine Heck and Tom Burgess abstained. All others in favor. Motion carried.

3. 1st Read Policies:

- **KEC/IJL (IGE) Reconsideration of Instruction Materials and Educational Media Library Collection Development/Library Collection**

- **JLCD: Administration of Medication**
- **+3 others**

4. Policy Review (pg. 1-23)

- **BBBF: Student Board Members**

Policy BBF is now a required policy.

Katherine Heck said that they (the student) would be responsible for following the statutory regulations. Language should be added so that the student would know to check the regulations. “responsibilities of student government” could be added back in....

The law states that students shall be selected by a simple majority.

Katherine Heck said that adding the language would be helpful for reference.

Crista Salamy said that since the position is open to all students in the school, and not just those in Student Council, it should be part of the policy.

The intent of the law was so that more students had access to the position.

- **JBAB: Transgender and Gender Expression**

ConVal currently has a procedure. 66% of NH School Districts do not have a policy.

Currently, we work with students to speak with parents on this topic. At the end of the day, it is the parents' child.

The procedure will be brought to the next Policy Committee meeting.

- JICA: Student Dress Code

Doug Sutherland asked if schools follow policy for dress code. If the policy changed for hats or other, they would follow. Right now, they are making it work within their schools. Confirmed.

This is being discussed to bring consistency between the middle schools and high school. Administrators shared that they are not having dress code issues and would rather it not change mid-year.

Gaining feedback from administration about issues or problems that they are experiencing in this area that policy might address would be sought.

If policy is vague, there is nothing to support addressing dress code areas.

The board previously was non-specific intentionally and left the details to the student handbook.

Discussion took place about policies and the student handbook and the weight that they carry.

Kimberly Saunders said that if you want the dress code to be stricter she would recommend the board to say that the change came from them. The wording should be carefully crafted. It should not be tied to gender.

Can this be done at the school level? If they wanted to change it, could they? According to policy the school principal could change the dress code as it stands now. They can put anything in the handbook so long as it falls within the policy.

Tom Burgess said that he thought that the message was clear that administration didn't need changes to the policy and not just to wait until the start of a school year.

If administrators are having trouble having difficult conversations they need to receive training.

A parent survey was suggested. A survey of administrators was suggested as well. This would be looking into the future. Ask administrators about uniforms as well. If ever, they would be phased in.

Kimberly Saunders agreed to survey administrators.

- EBCD: Emergency School & District Closings
- EBCE: School Closings

NHSBA suggests merging the two policies. Language about "Distance Education During Inclement Weather" was discussed. Leaving this language in was suggested to keep options open.

If the two were merged, we would rescind EBCE and change EBCD to include language from EBCE. The top two paragraphs of ConVal EBCD will be added.

Staff Responsibilities will be amended to include language about the CVEA bargaining agreement.

ConVal policy call letters will match NHSBA. This policy will be reworked and return to the Policy Committee.

- IHBAB: Special Education Evaluations

This policy will go to legal for review and input.

5. Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3 II (If Required)

None.

6. Policy Status Update:

Under review/revision by Administration:

- IHBG: Home Education Instruction
- JJJ: Access to Public School by Nonpublic, Charter Schools, and Home Educated Students
- JLDBB: Suicide Prevention and Response
- IKL: Academic Integrity and Honesty – Education Committee Recommendation
- JLCB: Immunization of Students (Reworded and Re-lettered)

Under review by Legal:

- JLCF: Wellness
- IHBA: Evaluation Requirements for Students

Under review by Budget and Property:

- Capital Plan Policy

Under review by Communication Committee:

- EG/KDA: Public Information Program

Under review with Nurses:

- JLCA: Physical Examination of Students

Future Agenda Items:

- Fall Update Items

Doug Sutherland motioned to adjourn at 6:49 p.m. Janine Lesser seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok