



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

New Britain Board of Education Policy Subcommittee Meeting

October 21, 2019 – 5:30 PM | New Britain Educational Administration Center

Call to Order and Opening

Mr. Nicholas Mercier, Policy Subcommittee Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

Committee Members Present

Mr. Nicholas Mercier, Ms. Nancy Rodriguez, Dr. Violet Jimenez Sims

CSDNB Staff Present

Ms. Kristin Salerni, Mr. Mark Spalding

Old Business

Continue Review Policy: 6162.40 - Volunteers

The Policy Subcommittee recommended striking the current policy and replacing it with:

“It is the policy of the New Britain Board of Education that anyone who volunteers will be subject to adequate security and safety procedures to help ensure the safety of all children.

Volunteers who are working alongside certified staff who will not have any unsupervised contact with students will be subject to checks against the registered sex offender database utilizing the school Raptorware system.

Volunteers who will have unsupervised contact with students will complete a volunteer application packet, undergo a criminal background screening, and then be approved for selection as a volunteer by the Talent Development Office in accordance with administrative procedures.”

The Policy Subcommittee recommended that this revised policy be forwarded to the Board of Education for approval at the next regular meeting.

New Business

Review and approve minutes from the Policy Subcommittee Meeting on September 16, 2019.

There were no recommended changes to the minutes from the Policy Subcommittee Meeting on September 16, 2019.

New Britain Board of Education

Nicole Rodriguez - President | Nicholas Mercier – Vice President | Gayle Sanders-Connolly - Secretary
Catherine Cheney | Merrill Gay | Annie S. Parker | Nancy Rodriguez | James Sanders Jr. | Violet Jiménez Sims

Review Policy: 4152.6/4252.6 – Family and Medical Leave

Mr. Mark Spalding, Director of Pupil Services, recommended the following language be added to the Administrative Procedure: Section III, based on a recent Opinion Letter from the U.S. Department of Labor:

“F. To attend an IEP/PPT meeting for their child or for a meeting at a school at which the employee is (a) helping participants make medical decisions concerning the child’s medically prescribed therapy; (b) discussing the child’s wellbeing and progress with the providers of such services, and/or (c) ensuring that the child’s school environment is suitable to his or her medical, social, or academic needs.”

The Policy Subcommittee recommended that this request be forwarded to the Superintendent’s Cabinet for review.

Review Policy: 4111/4211 – Hiring of Staff

The request to review this policy was initiated by the Personnel Subcommittee on September 23, 2019. Concerns had been raised with regard to how the current hiring policy and procedure does not meet the pressing needs of the district to fill vacancies in a fast and efficient manner. The district policy requiring board approval often delays the process of immediately filling vacant positions especially with the Board convening for regular meetings only once a month.

The Policy Subcommittee made the following recommendations with regard to the policy:

- Strike the phrase “or special interest in” from the last sentence
- Add the following sentence onto the end of the policy: “All appointments of Administrative staff (such as, but not limited to, Directors, Building Administrators, etc) shall require approval of the full board.”

The Policy Subcommittee recommended that this revised policy be forwarded to the Board of Education for approval at the next regular meeting. The Policy Subcommittee further recommended that the Administrative Procedure be forwarded to the Superintendent’s Cabinet for review with regard to the aforementioned hiring concerns and board approval.

Review and/or Re-affirm Policy: 6164.11 – Drug Education (March 18, 1985)

The Policy Subcommittee recommended that the suggested policy from CAFE replace the current district policy.

The Policy Subcommittee recommended that this revised policy be forwarded to the Board of Education for approval at the next regular meeting.

Review and/or Re-affirm Policy: 5145.52 – Equalized Physical Education and Athletics for Boys and Girls (April 15, 1985)

The Policy Subcommittee recommended that the entire policy be struck from the books as it falls under Title IX and other non-discrimination policies.

The Policy Subcommittee recommended that the request to strike this policy be forwarded to the Board of Education for approval at the next regular meeting.

Review and/or Re-affirm Policy 0523.10 – Multi-Cultural Education

The Policy Subcommittee recommended that the appropriate state legal citation be added onto this policy in light of recent revisions made to the Administrative Procedures. This legislation requires inclusion of African American, Puerto Rican, and Latino studies in public school curriculum.

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The Policy Subcommittee recommended that this revised policy be forwarded to the Board of Education for approval at the next regular meeting.

Closing and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 PM.

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