



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

New Britain Board of Education Policy Committee Meeting

January 23, 2023 – 6:00 PM | New Britain Educational Administration Center

Call to Order and Opening

Curriculum Chair Anthony Kane, called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Board Members Present

Anthony Kane*, Joseph Listro*, #Diana Reyes*, Gayle Sanders-Connolly, Tina Santana*

*Committee member

#Arrived at 6:08 pm

CSDNB Staff Present

Ms. Amy Anderson, Ms. Kristina DeNegre, Ms. Aja Edwards, Dr. Anthony Gasper, Ms. Maryellen Manning, Mr. Tyrone Richardson, Mr. Paul Salina, Dr. Nicole Sanders, and Ms. Ivelise Velazquez.

New Business

Review and Approve Minutes from Policy Committee Meeting on January 23, 2023

Submitted by Ms. Aja Edwards

Ms. Santana motioned to approve minutes from the Policy Committee Meeting on January 23, 2023, seconded by Mr. Kane. Motion carried unanimously.

Review and Discuss Policy 3542.21 – Free and Reduced-Price Meals

Submitted by Mr. Joseph Listro

Mr. Kane motioned to Review and Discuss Policy 3542.21 – Free and Reduced-Price Meals, seconded by Ms. Santana.

Mr. Listro requested to update the language on the policy to include the community eligibility provision, and to follow the state education guidelines. If there is a change that needs to be made in the admin procedures, the Board can update as they see fit. Ms. Santana mentioned the policy is from 1993, and stated there needs to be changes that reflect current time. Mr. Listro made changes to the policy, revisions are below.

Board Policy Statement

3542.21 - ~~Free and Reduced-Price Meals~~ School Meals Program

Approved on May 13, 1993

The New Britain Board of Education agrees to participate in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program and accepts responsibility for providing free meals in accordance with participation in the Community Eligibility Provision and the Connecticut State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Program policies.

New Britain Board of Education

Gayle Sanders-Connolly – President | Merrill Gay – Vice President | Joseph Listro – Secretary

Anthony Cane | Monica Dawkins | Anthony Kane | Matthew Marino | Annie S. Parker | Diana Reyes | Tina Santana

The Consolidated School District of New Britain will uniformly implement the following administrative procedures for free meals in all schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program.

Dr. Gasper mentioned that he will speak with Chief Operations Officer Rebecca Gonzalez and Whiston's employee Jeff Taddeo to review the administrative procedure once the policy is adopted by the full Board.

Mr. Kane motioned to add this item to the regular board meeting in March. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss Possible Creation of a Policy Governing Flags Posted at Schools
Submitted by: Mr. Anthony Kane

Mr. Kane discussed creating a policy governing flags posted at school. There currently isn't a policy that states the process of approval for flags being raised. This can be cause legal issues in the future if a clear, specific policy isn't created. Below are the revisions made by Mr. Kane regarding the process of approving raising flags.

It is the policy of the Board of Education (Board) to correctly honor the flags of the United States, the State of Connecticut, the POW/MIA recognition, the City of New Britain, **Board approved school flags**, and the flags of other governmental entities and ensure a standard of flag display on District property. **The American flag should always be present when others are flying.**

The Board shall comply with national and state protocols for flag display and etiquette.

In addition to the above referenced flags, **United States territorial & state, sister City, and foreign national flags may also be displayed outside of a school building on the day of a visit from an elected official or delegation to that school. Inside of school buildings, United States territorial, state, & historical flags, sister City flags, as well as flags of foreign nations and ethnic flags (such as the Pan-African flag) may be displayed, on a permanent or temporary basis, in accordance with proper flag etiquette. These displays are to be educational in nature, as well as to recognize the diversity of our City's heritage, history, and student body. In accordance with the concept of viewpoint neutrality, no other flags, banners, emblems, or signage that could be deemed political or religious in nature shall be displayed inside or outside of school buildings or on school property.** ~~other flags or banners may be displayed on a permanent or temporary basis outside or inside of District buildings. Other flags and banners may only be displayed upon the issuance of a federal or state proclamation or resolution or Mayoral proclamation. Examples include, but are not limited to, sister City flags, Heritage Month flags, (e.g. African American History, Asian/Pacific American History, National Hispanic Heritage, National American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage), flags received in recognition of awards, or flags designating an event or accomplishment. All such flags and banners will be displayed with the authorization by the Mayor as prescribed by the applicable proclamation or resolution.~~

Mr. Listro would like to strike through the last line that states *in accordance with the concept of viewpoint neutrality, no other flags, banners, emblems, or signage that could be deemed political or religious in nature shall be displayed inside or outside of school buildings or on school property.*

Once the revised policy is drafted, Dr. Gasper will forward it to Shipman & Goodwin LLP for review. Dr. Gasper asked for the policy to be very specific and clear.

Closing and Adjournment

Ms. Santana motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Reyes

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 PM.

New Britain Board of Education

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