

Draft Pending Committee Approval
Policy Committee Meeting
Thursday, October 20, 2016
T/E Administrative Offices, Room 200
7:00 p.m.

Board Committee Members: Kevin Buraks, Chair; Todd Kantorczyk, Kate Murphy, Ed Sweeney
Other Board Members: Doug Carlson, Virginia Lastner, Roberta Hotinski, Michele Burger
T/E School District Representatives: Rich Gusick, Ken Roos, Andrea Chipego, Mark Cataldi, Art McDonnell, Dave Preston. Kevin Pechin

Community Members: Jerry Henige, Barb Jackson

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the September 22, 2016 meeting were approved.

Public Comment

Barb Jackson commented on Policy and Regulation 4330 Harassment by and of District Employees.
Jerry Henige commented on Policy and Regulation 6141 Nondiscrimination of Students in School and Classroom Practices.

Review of Policies for 2nd Reading

After review and discussion, it was recommended that the following Policies be sent to the Board of School Directors for a second reading at their meeting on October 24, 2016.

Policy and Regulation 5401: Student Discipline

Revisions to this Policy include clarification that students may be disciplined for offenses committed on school grounds, in school vehicles or while participating in school-sponsored activities on or off school premises or that have some other legally-recognized nexus to the school. The Regulation was revised to provide clarity to the Protocol for Assessment of Threatening Behaviors. The revised Policy was sent to the Office of Safe Schools for cyclical compliance.

Policy and Regulation 5415: Dress and Appearance

Due to recent changes in the Pennsylvania Public School Code, school districts are required to have a policy on student dress and appearance. The Policy conveys that students have the right to determine their dress and appearance as long as it conforms to norms of decency, which are described in the Regulation. Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes or in activities such as music performances and athletics. Historically, our schools have conveyed standards for student attire in the student handbook or through other means of communication.

Policy and Regulation 6141: Nondiscrimination of Students in School and Classroom Practices

The District prohibits any form of discrimination. Revisions to the Policy and Regulation include an expanded definition of nondiscrimination. Students will not be discriminated against based on race, color, age, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, ancestry, national origin or handicap/disability. A new section in the Regulation on Gender Expansive and Transgender (GET) students was presented in draft form. The committee resumed the discussion from the prior meeting about access to restrooms and locker rooms for GET students. The section on participation in athletics will be addressed in draft revisions to Policy and Regulation 6146 Student Athletics. The committee will continue to discuss the Regulation at the next committee meeting.

Information

None

Follow Up from Previous Policy Committee Meeting

Policy and Regulation 5120: Withdrawal from School

This Policy and Regulation were drafted to comply with a recent change in the Pennsylvania Public School Code that requires school districts to post a policy about withdrawal from school. This new Policy and Regulation includes various circumstances in which students may withdrawal from school and the procedures to complete the withdrawal process. The Policy will be sent to the Board of School Directors for a first reading at their meeting on October 24, 2016.

Policy and Regulation 6195: Title I Parental Involvement

Title I is a federal program that provides funding to local school districts with the goal of improving the academic achievement of disadvantaged students. Individual schools are given the designation of Title I by the US Department of Education. The District has been in compliance with the federal law regarding

Title I. This new Policy and Regulation were introduced in response to the new mandate in the Pennsylvania Public School Code that requires school districts to post a policy about Title I. The Policy and Regulation outline the process in which the District and parents/guardians will jointly develop a written parental involvement plan. The Policy will be sent to the Board of School Directors for a first reading at their meeting on October 24, 2016.

Policy 4970: Private Coaching or Training of Students by District Athletic Coaches

This new Policy and Regulation establishes parameters for private coaching and training by District-employed athletic coaches. The draft Policy states that District athletic coaches are not permitted to receive remuneration for the private coaching or training of student-athletes who play in the same school and sport for which the coach is employed. The draft Regulation states that athletic coaches shall not promote or require student participation in any private training, practice, camp, clinic, or sports contest. In addition, athletic coaches shall not make team roster selections or playing time decisions based on student participation in any private training, practice, camp, clinic, or sports contest. This Policy and Regulation will be brought back to the committee at the next meeting after drafting further revisions.

Policies and Regulations for Review and Discussion

Regulation 8120: Food and Nutrition Services

This Regulation specifies that students will not be denied food service purchases unless requested by the parent/guardian. Account balance notification and collection are articulated in the Regulation. Students and parents/guardians will be notified of an account balance of \$5.00 or less. If the account balance exceeds \$50.00 and remains unpaid for more than 30 days, then additional collection charges may be imposed. An outstanding account balance may be referred to an outside agency if a good faith effort is not made towards payment. Parents/guardians who are experiencing financial difficulties may request payment arrangements from the District. This Regulation was approved for posting.

Future Meetings

Additional meetings are scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2016 and Thursday, December 15, 2016.

All meetings are held at the Tredyffrin/Easttown Administration Offices, 940 West Valley Road, Suite 1700, in Room 200 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 PM.

2016 Policy Committee Goals:

1. To identify and examine critical issues facing the District from a Policy perspective.
2. To review existing Policies and develop new Policies in response to legal requirements administrative recommendations, Board priorities, community input and external issues.
3. To communicate Policy revisions or new Policies to stakeholders via webpage postings, email messages, and oral reports at Board meetings.
4. To continue with a cyclical review of Board policies in determining if policies should be revised, updated or repealed.