

**POLICY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Date: December 15, 2015

Place: Board Room, Havemeyer

Present:

Members: Ms. Barbara O'Neill, Acting Chairman
Ms. Debbie Appelbaum
Ms. Laura Erickson

Other: Dr. Gaetane Francis
Dr. William McKersie
Ms. Irene Parisi
Ms. Trudi Durrell (arrived 10:50)

The meeting convened at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting minutes from December 1, 2015 were approved 3-0.

The first item on the agenda was the monitoring report for E-002, Whole Student Development which is scheduled for the February 4, 2016 work session. The report should include an update on the management plan from the last report with specificity (timeline, responsible staff).

The goals and measures of effectiveness of school activities related to the policy (e.g. food collections, St. Baldrick's cancer fundraiser) should be made clear. The report should include an update on expulsions and any alternatives such as the Juvenile Review Board administered by the United Way of Greenwich. A question was raised as to how the district ensures that parents are aware of codes of behavior now that materials are published on school websites.

There was a brief status update on the policy revisions of E-002 previously discussed. Dr. McKersie sent an email dated December 1st to committee members with revised language.

The next item on the agenda was the ELL monitoring report which was discussed with Ms. Parisi and Ms. Durrell. The last monitoring report presented a three year plan so this report should serve as an update. The assessment data should be updated. It was noted that students who are new to the district and receive ELL services are required to take the state assessments. Ms Durrell also noted that 200 students exited the program last June per state standard, but the district still services 50 of those students based on need. A question was raised about the bilingual program at New Lebanon and which is starting up at Julian Curtis. This is a program required by Federal law if 20 or more identified ELL students speak the same language in the same school.

The committee asked that the report include other offerings that are available such as summer school and the Horizons program.

There was a discussion of staffing. The ELL coordinator splits her time between AVID and ELL. Ms. Durrell teaches one class. During the summer and through November, Ms. Durrell is involved in grant writing. The district applies for a minimum of two grants, usually three. The district was ineligible for a year, but is now once again the recipient of an Immigrant Children grant.

There was a discussion of translation protocols, which will be included as an appendix in the report. Currently, translations are part of Ms. Durrell's Administrative Assistant's job description.

Finally, the group requested that any management issues be specified.

Next, was a discussion of the PE/Health monitoring report with Ms. Parisi. This report is intended to be focused on PE with an update provided on the health curriculum review. The following items were discussed:

- What information do parents receive on the PE curriculum?
- What is the role of technology?
- What is the update on the GHS requirement that 9th graders take aquatics?
- What are the assured experiences?

Ms. Parisi clarified that there is no state relief for students who participate on athletic teams to opt out of PE courses.

Finally there was a brief discussion of PreK procedures - how is information disseminated; transparency of lottery; waitlist procedures; incentive pricing for staff and town employees; and enrollment of economically disadvantaged students. Due to time constraints, this item will be carried over to the next agenda.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 from 1-2:30 pm (note time change). The meeting schedule for the balance of the school year will be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Erickson

Approved 1/12/16

3-0