

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE
May 6, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. with the following people present: Sharon Cox (chair), Pat O'Neill, Charles Haughey, George Margolies, Glenda Rose (recorder), Harriet Potosky, Robin Confino, Susan Falkenhan, Greg Thornton, and Lori-Christina Webb.

REGULATION JEA-RA – Student Attendance

A timeline for the draft attendance regulation was presented to the committee. The committee thought that input from secondary principals, parents, and students is crucial for the development and ultimate success of the regulation. Also, attendance is an issue since the *No Child Left Behind Act* requires a 95 percent attendance rate. The timeline will have the regulation ready for implementation for the 2004-05 school year.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF MCPS STRATEGIC PLAN

A list of policies that need revision in light of MCPS' Strategic Plan was distributed. It was decided that the Policy Committee would prioritize the policies that must be reviewed and aligned with the plan at its July meeting. The yearly process of staff review for policies and regulations was discussed.

Documents from a recent NSBA workshop were circulated. These documents proposed that policies should be classified as either operational and governing. Since the Board does not routinely review all its policies, there is no reporting mechanism for quality control or an evaluation process. It was suggested that the committee members study the documents, and at a future meeting decide what could be adapted or adopted from the suggested procedures.

POLICY CFB – Public Charter Schools

Based on a new law, the Board of Education must submit a public charter schools policy to the State Board of Education by November 1, 2003. The current policy needs to be amended to comply with the law, and the guidelines will be rewritten as a regulation. There could be a consideration of a tiered system of review with threshold requirements at each level for all applications. The draft policy will be critiqued at the committee's June meeting.

POLICY JED and REGULATION JED-RA – Residency, Tuition, and Enrollment

It was staff's recommendation that the policy does not need a revision, and the regulation will be rewritten to comply with the new state law.

FUTURE AGENDAS

At future meetings the committee will discuss Regulation BFA-RA, *Policysetting*; experience with portable communication devices at the middle school level; update on curriculum regulation; and the policy on counseling and guidance.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2003, at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.