

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY COMMITTEE**

January 12, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. with the following people present: Sharon Cox (chair), Steve Abrams, Pat O'Neill, George Margolies, Glenda Rose (recorder), Lori-Christina Webb, Pat Kelly, Mike Cohen, Betsy Brown, Diane Mohr, Laura Steinberg, Robin Confino, Stephanie Williams, Janine Bacquie, Harriet Potosky, Karen Crawford, Gwen Mason, Cathy Pevey, Don Kress, and Carey Wright.

Procedure

Mr. Abrams asked if the quorum of the committee included the student Board member. He suggested that this issue be addressed and the Board adopt a rule on the quorum at committee meetings.

Update on Policy IKA – Grading and Reporting

Staff reported that they have been collecting feedback from various sources, such as focus groups and meetings. From the feedback, staff will revise the standards-based tools and develop tools for the 3rd grade. The pilot will not be expanded to the 3rd grade until there is job-embedded staff development for the teachers and increased capacity of the school system. The committee asked if special education students were included in the pilot. Staff assured them that there is a collaboration to support schools and parents.

Staff will continue to draft language defining the procedures for grading. The electronic report card – Pinnacle Plus – will be in two high schools and two middle schools for the second semester. Barring any major problems, feedback on the pilot will be utilized to implement the system with all secondary schools in the fall.

Policy IOB – Education of Students with Disabilities

Staff stated that there were two technical changes in the policy in order to comply with directives from the state, and there is no need to wait for approval of federal regulations. Feedback on the policy from parents has been positive. The committee determined that the policy was ready for tentative Board approval with a date to be determined [since scheduled for March 27, 2006].

There was a brief discussion on state performance data as it relates to IDEIA and NCLB.

Policy IQD – Academic Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities

The committee reviewed the comments that had been received on the policy. The committee requested that the summary of comments state whether or not the comment came from an individual or group. The committee asked that the recommendations of

the work group accompany the policy when it goes to the Board for final action. Furthermore, the committee would like high school principals to be present at the Board meeting.

Update on Loss-of-Credit

Staff reported that they had met with school staff and students. Furthermore, it was determined that the attendance practices are reliable enough to determine if the regulation works. The plan was to compare the grades from the 2nd and 3rd quarter marking periods and whether or not students had regained credit. Staff stated that the attendance data will be only for academic subjects in order to focus the research.

Two-Tier Window for Waivers – *Early Entrance to Kindergarten*

The committee reviewed the appeals process, and how many children received waivers after the six-week period. There was a discussion about children assessed outside of the six-week window, and the burden of proving readiness being placed on the parents.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is February 8, 2006, at 2:30 p.m.

1. Review Policy JEB – *Early Entrance to Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade*
2. Review Regulation FAA-RA – *Long-Range Educational Facilities Planning*
3. Possible Waiver Process under Policy IQD

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.