

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY COMMITTEE**

October 10, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. with the following people present: Sharon Cox (chair), Pat O'Neill, Sebastian Johnson, George Margolies, Glenda Rose (recorder), Harriet Potosky, Stephanie Williams, Lori-Christina Webb, Pat Kelly, Mike Cohen, Janine Bacquie, Cathie Pevey, Betsy Brown, Diane Mohr, Jody Leleck, Shirley Brandman, Gwen Mason, Laura Steinberg, Frieda Lacey, Jody Silvio, Linda Ferrell, and Faith Connolly.

Update on the Implementation of Policy IKA – Grading and Reporting

Staff presented an evaluation timeline and design for the implementation and impact of the policy. There are 17 elementary schools piloting the new electronic report cards. There has been a compromise on the number of essential learnings; the number has been reduced from 51 to 18 data points. Feedback from this year will be used for training and revised tools for next year.

Policy JEB – Early Entrance to Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade

The committee reviewed the results of the screening process for early entrance to kindergarten. Even though only eight appeals reached the Board level, staff conceded that there were many hours spent on screening children for early entrance. The committee walked through the policy to ascertain if any edits were required. The policy is scheduled for tentative approval on October 24, 2005.

Policy IOB – Education of Students with Disabilities

Staff distributed a communication plan for soliciting input and feedback from all stakeholders. At the present time, the policy is ready for review in December, but staff must review the Federal regulations before proceeding. The committee agreed that the policy will be on the Board's agenda in the spring for tentative approval with final approval in May or June.

Review of Family Life Related Regulations

The committee discussed curriculum review as it pertains to the Family Life and Human Development Advisory Committee. In accordance with the provisions of COMAR, the staff will make professional decisions before it goes to the advisory committee for its recommendation to the Board.

Update on Loss-of-Credit Study

After the committee heard an update, the chair noted that the Board had requested a review and recommendation regarding improving process and procedures related to loss of credit. Staff was asked to come back with information on how they were going to review the process and procedures.

Committee's Work Plan

The committee reviewed the timelines and status of the following policies:

- Policy ABA – *Community Involvement*
- Policy CFB – *Charter Schools*
- Policy CGA – *Summer School*
- Policy IEA – *Framework and Structure of Early Childhood/Elementary Education*
- Policy IEB – *Middle School Education*
- Policy ISA – *High School Graduation Requirements and Waiver of Four-year Enrollment Requirement for Graduation*
- Policy IOB – *Education of Students with Disabilities*
- Policy IOG – *Child Find*
- Policy IQD – *Academic Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities*
- Policy JEB – *Early Entrance to Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade*
- Policy JPG – *Wellness*

The committee considered each policy to determine the work required and the need to prioritize the work plan. It was agreed that middle school reform must be driven by a new policy, and the policy will require input from stakeholders with public comments after tentative approval. Furthermore, the current policy contains a great deal of regulatory language. The committee asked staff to come to the next meeting prepared with a timeline for policy development.

The chair noted that Policies BNA and BNB should be added to the committee's work plan.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be November 9, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. Topics for the meeting will include:

1. Update on Implementation of Policy IKA – *Grading and Reporting*
2. Update on Loss-of-Credit and Study
3. Revisions to Policy ABA – *Community Involvement*
4. Timeline for Policy IEB – *Middle School Education*

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.