

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE

November 9, 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, Lori-Christina Webb, Pat Kelly, Mike Cohen, Cathie Pevey, Betsy Brown, Diane Mohr, Jody Leleck, Shirley Brandman, Laura Steinberg, Linda Ferrell, Jane Butler, Robin Confino, Carol Blum, and Danielle Susskind.

Update on the Implementation of Policy IKA – Grading and Reporting

Staff reported that focus of this update would be on elementary school report cards. The original 51 data points to be entered were pared down to nine with two required entries for each. Some educators still believe that assessments must be “paper and pencil.” However, evidence of learning may be demonstrated in multiple and informal ways. Another issue is the use of the technology for recording grades. There will be a formal evaluation of the Grade 1 and 2 pilot using surveys and focus groups after which there will be additional revisions. The committee agreed that it was important to make sure the process was achievable and realistic.

Policy ABA – Community Involvement

The committee reviewed the draft policy and made several constructive comments. Since there were numerous changes, staff will revise the draft and bring it to the committee for further review.

Policy IEB – Middle School Education

The timeline for the middle school reform project teams and steering committee was examined. The first draft from the project teams is due in December with a final report in April 2006. The policy will be drafted simultaneously with the reform framework. The committee will review the draft at its March meeting. The present schedule will have the Board consider the tentative policy in May with final approval anticipated for the end of September or early October 2006.

Update on Loss-of-Credit Study

After a presentation by staff on the application of loss-of-credit (LC), it was determined by the committee that the basic question was consistency and accurate attendance record keeping. Once the procedures for attendance are consistent, there can be a review of the application of LC, and whether the regulation should be revised.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be December 14, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. (subsequently changed to 5:00 p.m.) Topics for the meeting will include:

1. Update on Implementation of Policy IKA – *Grading and Reporting*
2. Policy JPG – *Wellness*
3. Policy JEB – *Early Entrance to Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade*

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.