

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
POLICY COMMITTEE**

March 14, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. with the following committee members and support staff present: Sharon Cox (chair), Steve Abrams, Pat O'Neill, Marlene Hartzman, and Glenda Rose (recorder).

Other staff present: Stephanie Williams, Harriet Potosky, Lori-Christina Webb, Elaine Chang-Baxter, Robin Confino, Donna Joe, Linda Ferrell, Erick Lang, Karen Crawford, Carey Wright, Gwen Mason, Christina Yuknis, and Bruce Crispell.

Others present: Jane de Winter and Terrence McPherson.

**Monitoring the Fidelity of the Middle School Reform**

Staff explained that they have weekly meetings to confirm the data points, and they will have documentation in May. The 25-member advisory committee is researching questions to help evaluate the implementation of the pilot. The fidelity of implementation will contain observations, focus groups, data collection, measure of practices, and impact of policy on student performance. The committee agreed that the monitoring plan was comprehensive and flexible. The committee suggested a summary document that could be attached to the minutes.

**Policy JFA, Student Rights and Responsibilities**

The committee reviewed the public's comments. There was concern about the ambiguity of the statement "higher standard." After a discussion on the meaning and interpretation of language, the committee agreed on the following change.

Students seeking election to or occupying positions in student government or other leadership positions are expected to exemplify ethical, legal and appropriate conduct and comply with all policies, regulations, and procedures on and off campus. Decisions regarding eligibility are the responsibility of the principal who may consult with students and/or school community members.

The policy is scheduled for final adoption by the Board on April 19, 2007.

**Special Education**

The committee discussed the issues Dr. Haughey raised and thought that they were addressed through student inclusion as a practice and the adopted policy (Policy IOB, *Education of Students with Disabilities*).

### **Policy FAA, Long-range Educational Facilities Planning**

The committee reviewed the format and gave feedback on a template to evaluate policy implementation. The template included references to the policy, regulation, desired outcomes, and evidence of implementation. The committee suggested changes to make the document more concise. This could be accomplished by not referring to the same memo, but report elements of the memo to demonstrate fulfillment of the policy. Furthermore, the document needs to be brief with supporting data stored in the Board Office. There was a proposal to convert the document to a matrix. It was agreed that the revised document/matrix would be discussed in May.

### **Annual Report of the Policy Committee**

The draft of the memorandum was reviewed by the committee. The committee made suggestions for additions or deletions to the paper. Also, there should be a paragraph on evaluation and monitoring of policies. A cover letter will be drafted to send the report to the public.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in Room 120. Agenda items may include:

1. Work Plan
2. Religious venues
3. Policy IKA, *Grading and Reporting*
4. Glossary

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.