

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY COMMITTEE**

October 11, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. with the following committee members and support staff present: Sharon Cox (chair), Steve Abrams, Pat O'Neill, Roland Ikheloa, Marlene Hartzman, Marcia Vogel, and Glenda Rose (recorder).

Other staff present: Stephanie Williams, Harriet Potosky, Lori-Christina Webb, Betsy Brown, Linda Ferrell, Elaine Chang, Cathy Pevey, Robin Confino, Judy Bresler, Duke Beattie, Mark Kelsch, Jody Leleck, and Brian Porter.

Policy Review of Extracurricular Eligibility

The issue was brought before the committee by the following resolution --

Resolved, That the Board of Education direct the Policy Committee to review Policy JFA, *Student Rights and Responsibilities*, and the Board's policy on eligibility for extracurricular activities for the purpose of identifying and recommending to the full Board any modifications that may be necessary on criteria that address eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.

The committee discussed options to determine if there were sufficient policies or regulations for administrative decisions involving students who have committed ethical or legal infractions. There were four suggestions –

- a) modify the policy on ineligibility for extracurricular activities
- b) use the sanctions within the policy on student rights and responsibilities
- c) revise the transfer policy with one year of ineligibility for athletics for involuntary transfers
- d) develop a separate policy

The committee decided that a separate policy was not required in that the policy and regulations for student rights and responsibilities addressed the concern. The committee cited the following from the policy

Students elected to student government or occupying other leadership positions must retain academic eligibility during their term of office. Additionally, students elected to student government or occupying other leadership positions are expected to meet a higher standard of conduct and comply with all policies, regulations, and procedures on and off campus during their term of office

and asked staff to

1. Prepare a response on whether or not it speaks to leadership of sports teams
2. Provide a response on why or why not it applies to acts or events that occurred before the leadership position was attained
3. If it does not apply to prior acts or events, should it be changed?
4. Is there a need for modification to regulatory language?

Timeline for Middle School Policy and Reform

The committee received a timeline prepared by staff. The committee chair immediately noted that the document listed November 2 to 8 as the time to “solicit community feedback on the draft middle school reform goals and strategies.” The chair stated that the policy drives the reform, and the timeline asked for feedback prior to the tentative adoption of the policy. The Board adopts a policy after public comment, then reform follows. Furthermore, how will budget implications be addressed?

The chair stated that she was disappointed since she had addressed this very issue several times, and she had raised this very concern at the agenda setting meeting in September.

It was decided that the schedule would be adjusted to allow for community feedback to be obtained after the tentative adoption of the policy.

Update on Policy IKA – Grading and Reporting

Staff reported on the implementation progress that had been made to date. At the elementary level, 19 schools will generate electronic, standards-based report cards, and all other schools will use a standards-based traditional report card. At the secondary level, the electronic report card is being used. Pinnacle has customized features to comply and supports the policy. Staff development will be job embedded for consistency. At the next update, staff will be available to discuss evaluation plans for this year, measurement of the impact of the policy as well as implementation, technology issues, and staff development.

Mrs. O’Neill asked why Montgomery Blair High School was not using Pinnacle / Edline. Staff will respond through their response to Ms. Hurwitz’s communication.

Ms. Cox reported that Harford County will be revising their policy, and they had asked for dates when staff would be able to meet with them to share lessons learned.

Review of Policy Committee Work Plans

The committee reviewed the committee’s work plan for 2006-07. That plan included:

1. Policy BBB, *Ethics*
2. Policy EEA, *Student Transportation*
3. Policy IEA, *Framework and Structure of Early Childhood/Elementary Education*
4. Policy IEB, *Framework and Structure of Middle School Education*

5. Policy IED, *Framework and Structure of High School Education*
6. Policy ISA, *High School Graduation Requirements and Waiver of Four-Year Enrollment Requirement for Graduation*
7. Policy FFA, *Naming School Facilities*
8. Policy GBD, *Recognition of Employees*
9. Policy GEE, *Teachers and Principals Holding Second Class Certificates*
10. Policy GDA, *Pre-Employment Physical Examinations*

It was suggested that the committee review Regulation FAA-RA for implementation. The Board had agreed to review the regulation at the end of the year for activities and feedback. Another topic that should be reviewed is loss-of-credit.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.