

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY COMMITTEE**

January 26, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. with the following Board members and Board staff present: Shirley Brandman (chair), Chris Barclay, Pat O'Neill, Suzann King (staff assistant), and Glenda Rose (recorder).

Other staff present: Stephanie Williams, Harriet Potosky, Suzanne Merchlinsky, Brian Edwards, Robin Confino, Angela Stevenson, Sally Davis, Lori-Christina Webb, Erick Lang, Karen Crawford, Carol Blum, Susan Marks, Steve Zagami, Joe Lavorgna, Bruce Crispell, James Song, and Diane Mohr.

Other attendees: Kay Romero.

COMMITTEE MINUTES

ACTION: The November 3, 2009, meeting minutes were approved as presented.

RESCISSION OF POLICY GBB, DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE SERVICES

Staff suggested that Policy GBB be rescinded because the department referenced in the policy has been subsumed by the Office of Human Resources. Committee members had questions about the original rationale for the adoption of Policy GBB and whether certain tenants from Policy GBB were included in Policy GAA, *Positive Work Environment in a Self-renewing Organization*.

ACTION: Staff will: (1) review Policy GAA to ascertain if the necessary portions of Policy GBB are included; (2) assure that there is a strong statement of the commitment and support of employees; and (3) review COMAR to make sure there is no legal requirement for employee assistance services. Consideration of Policy GBB will be rescheduled for the Policy Committee.

POLICY GFC, REASSIGNMENT OF EMPLOYEES WITHIN TWO YEARS OF NORMAL RETIREMENT

After the Board tentatively adopted the policy, the policy was sent out for public comment; no comments were received from the public.

ACTION: The Policy Committee recommended that this policy be scheduled for Board of Education final action.

POLICY IED, FRAMEWORK AND STRUCTURE OF HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION
POLICY IGA, HIGH SCHOOL CORE COURSES – RESCIND
POLICY ISA, HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & WAIVER OF FOUR
YEAR ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATION -- RESCIND

The Committee reviewed a revised draft of Policy IED, which is seeking to update the high school policies, similar to the policies for Early Childhood Education and Middle School Education. Staff explained that Policy IGA and Policy ISA could be rescinded given that they were being incorporated into Policy IED. The Committee reviewed and discussed a chart that provided a comparison of Policies IED, ISA, and IGA, and Regulation ISB-RA. The Committee made modifications to the language including making sure it aligns with the elementary and middle school policies. Further, the Committee asked staff to add language that would include the Board's commitment and authorization for students to earn credits outside of MCPS, which was originally expressed in Policy ISA.

ACTION: With these changes, the Committee will recommend that the Board take tentative action on Policy IED at its March 22, 2010, meeting. The Committee also requested that the comparison chart accompany the materials provided to the Board on March 22, 2010.

DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR POLICY JHF, BULLYING, HARASSMENT, OR INTIMIDATION

The policy was tentatively adopted by the Board and sent out for public comment. After reviewing and discussing the comments from the community, the Committee decided to: add language requiring an administrator to immediately notify parents of the victim and offender involved in a bullying incident, remove the categories of students in "Desired Outcomes" section, add a definition of electronic bullying, add language about staff being responsive to the student who reports a bullying incident, and identify where and how incidents are reported after the policy is adopted. Staff also reported that an opportunity will be created for parents to provide input into the development of the regulation prior to its finalization.

ACTION: The Policy Committee recommended that this policy be scheduled for Board of Education final action.

DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR POLICIES ECK, USE OF SMITH CENTER FOR NON-MCPS GROUPS

The policy was tentatively adopted by the Board and sent out for public comment. No comments were received from the public.

ACTION: The Policy Committee recommended that this policy be scheduled for Board of Education final action.

DISCUSSION OF POLICY FKB, MODERNIZATION/RENOVATION

At a previous Board meeting, the Board voted to convene a retreat to begin the process of addressing various issues relating to school construction and modernization. As part of the groundwork for that retreat, staff is developing proposals for revisions to Policy FKB which can be reviewed by the Policy Committee prior to the retreat. The Committee requested: (a) background material to inform Committee members deliberations; (b) that Policy FKB be sent electronically to all Board members; and (c) that this item be on the Committee's next two agendas.

ACTION: To help deliberations, the Committee requested history, data that the Council reviewed, industry standards, chart outlining where the school system is in transition to meet codes and 30-year modernization cycle, and program for extended life of a building.

UPDATE ON POLICY JNA, CURRICULAR EXPENSES FOR STUDENTS

Staff reported they are in the process of collecting data on fee waivers, which should be available by the next Committee meeting; one school requested information about the proper procedure to be followed to make sure a fee was appropriate for a particular course; and the fees will be posted in the course bulletin.

ACTION: Data regarding the fee waivers will be reported at the next Committee meeting.

DISCUSSION OF 2010 COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

The Committee discussed its work plan for 2010 and noted that non-substantive changes to policies will be batched for Board approval. The Committee will meet every other month and electronically submit materials to Committee members.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.