

WSC POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

February 24, 2021

Meeting called to order at 10:04am

Roll Call. Ellen Grieco and Kim Reichelt Present

Public Attendees: Alexia Obar

1) Public Comment:

Alexia Obar - Believes that the School Councils need more information on what the members are supposed to be doing. They could use information on how Open Meeting Law works, sometimes they get confused about how often they meet, and whether they are allowed to meet in subgroups. Not sure they understand the ins and outs of open meeting law. They seem to think they can only work on what is deemed a goal of the district, where they are supposed to have more autonomy as individual School Councils, and not sure the individual principals are supposed to have power over the group. At the HS, the Principal picks the agenda and has total control. We need to do some educating and the full intent of the legislation when they set this up. I think School Councils can be great and powerful tools, but maybe aren't being used to their full potential.

2) Policy Review

- KDB - we agreed not to change, not to add MASC's language, which seems vague and potentially problematic --- highlighted text not added: "All commonly available public record documents of the School District shall be posted on the district's website. The length of time such records shall remain posted on the district website shall be in accordance with the Municipal Record Retention Manual. In addition,"
- KDD - we agreed to make the change from MASC
- KE - we agreed to make the change from MASC with the addition after "fully and fairly": "in accordance with the law"
- KHB - we will stick with our existing policy
- KI - update as noted
- LDA - update as noted
- BDFA - Kim presented a proposed update to BDFA. Ellen wondered if we might want to convene a group in the summer to review the policy and enable the new superintendent to be involved,

and give him an opportunity to work with the principals and parents/students on this. Kim's concern was postponing it too long to impact spring elections.

Kim summarized some components of the proposed policy, including elections and composition. Ellen wondered if we might want to add students to each of the councils (currently only have a student member, as required, at the HS)

Kim and Ellen agreed to discuss the policy with the principals (Ellen to talk with Allyson, Brian and Christie, Kim with Tricia and Betsy), and to meet again in two weeks, and then bring it to the School Committee

Kim will annotate the proposed BDFA to identify sources for the various components

3. Minutes:

Inadvertently neglected to review minutes, so will do at the next meeting

4. No matters not anticipated

Meeting adjourned at 10:58

Corresponding documentation:

Policies KDB, KDD, KE, KHB, KI, LDA, BDFA