

CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Policy Committee Meeting
November 28, 2018

Committee Members Present

Mr. Dennis Weldon, Chairperson
Mrs. Sharon Collopy, Member
Dr. John Kopicki, Superintendent
Dr. Nicole Young, Member

Committee Members Not Present

Mr. John Gamble, Member

Others in Attendance

Mrs. Beth Darcy, Board Member
Mrs. Jodi Schwartz, Board Member
Mrs. Tracy Suits, Board Member
Mr. Jeffrey Garton, District Solicitor
Dr. Nadine Garvin, Asst. Superintendent
Dr. Abram Lucabaugh, Asst. Superintendent
Ms. Andrea DiDio-Hauber,
Director of Human Resources

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Erika Zorn addressed the Committee regarding the District policy on lice. Ms. Zorn has a CB student and presented extensive background information on the difficult battle she has faced over the last few weeks after her child contracted lice. She shared information with the Committee on lice infestation and the new “super lice” issue in several states. Ms. Zorn has had to purchase many expensive treatments to rid her family and home of the infestation. She detailed the painstaking and painful efforts her family has been through, including the loss of her job because she has been unable to be at work while dealing with this issue. Ms. Zorn strongly objects to the District’s policy, which allows students to attend school while still having nits in their hair. She acknowledged the current policy is recommended by the American Institute of Pediatrics. She expressed her disagreement with the policy on several levels. She detailed practices that she believes must be adopted by the district, including a “no nit” policy, full classroom checks once a student has been identified as having lice, and that no child be allowed in school until they are nit and lice free. Ms. Zorn noted her belief that the district’s current lice policy is based on the fact that the district receives state and federal funding for student attendance. Keeping students out of school for lice negatively affects district funding, and she believes is the basis for allowing students to attend school with nits in their hair. Ms. Zorn remarked that she believes most CB parents are not aware of the current lice policy, and would be upset once they understood.

Mr. Weldon thanked Ms. Zorn for speaking, and noted that the District’s lice policy will be on the agenda for the next Policy Committee meeting in January. He recommended that there be research done regarding the issue, and details of the practices in surrounding districts be gathered before the next Committee meeting. Mrs. Darcy commented that the District adopted the current policy in 2012, as did many of the area districts. She noted that she had attended that Board meeting as a parent, and there were several local pediatricians that spoke in support of the new policy. She remarked that a “no-nit” policy would mean that, during the entire several-week period Ms. Zorn’s student had been battling lice, they would not have been allowed to attend school. Mrs. Darcy thanked Ms. Zorn for sharing her story, and assured her that the District policy has absolutely no basis in any funding issue. The Board does not make

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decisions regarding student health and well-being based on any type of funding. She believes the new policy was adopted based on the recommendation of several local pediatricians and because of all the lost school time students were facing with a “no-nit” policy. Dr. Young remarked that the lost school time of a “no-nit” policy could also place parents in jeopardy of losing their jobs due to having to stay home with their children. She believes it is important to research all sides of the issue. Dr. Young asked Ms. Zorn if she would give the Committee an opportunity to complete their due diligence regarding the issue, and return to the Policy Committee meeting in January. Ms. Zorn agreed that she would be in attendance, Dr. Kopicki noted he will be sure that she is provided with details regarding date and time for the meeting.

REVIEW OF MEETING NOTES

The October 24, 2018 Policy Committee Meeting minutes were reviewed.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>NOTES</u>	<u>FOLLOW UP</u>
Policy 005 – Organization	The Committee is returning to previously tabled policies and reviewing again. Mr. Garton provided perspective regarding several items in the proposed policy. Mrs. Collopy noted that CB Ad Hoc committees are not date-defined, but purpose defined. Mr. Weldon remarked that every Ad Hoc committee would terminate at the District’s reorganization meeting in December, and would need to be renewed. Discussion was held regarding whether committees should be delineated in the policy, or inserted as a “may” include list. It was determined that the <u>Consultants</u> section was unnecessary. Discussion was also held regarding whether the action a committee takes is considered a vote or a recommendation. CB Committees operate within the guidelines of the Sunshine Act.	Move proposed policy to First Read with the following changes: Under Board Committees: •Change #3 Human Resources Committee to Policy Committee •Delete the last two paragraphs on page 3/4. The new paragraph should read: “Ad hoc committees may be created by at least five (5) votes of the Board, charged, and assigned a fixed termination date. Members of Ad Hoc committees shall serve until the committee is discharged.” •The first sentence on page 4/4 should read “The Board may develop...” •Delete the entire Consultants section
Policy 006 – Meetings	Mr. Garton provided perspective regarding several items in the proposed policy, including the fact that a quorum is defined by 5 members of the Board being physically present for it to be considered a quorum. Discussion was held on whether a purchase order is considered a contract. If necessary, purchase orders could be approved on a consent agenda.	Move proposed policy to First Read with the following changes: Under <u>Quorum</u> : The first sentence should read: “A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Board, who must be physically present at the meeting.” Under <u>Regular Meetings</u> : 2. Order of Business – change to the following:

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	<p>Work sessions and their place in the CB process was discussed.</p>	<p>The order of business for regular meetings shall be as follows, unless altered by the President or a majority of those present and voting:</p> <p><i>Call to Order</i></p> <p><i>Approval of Minutes</i></p> <p><i>Public Comment</i></p> <p><i>Superintendent’s Report</i></p> <p><i>Committee Reports</i></p> <p><i>Discussion Items</i></p> <p><i>Treasurer’s Report</i></p> <p><i>Recommendations for Action Reports and Information</i></p> <p><i>Adjournments</i></p> <p><u>Page 6/8:</u> change letter “x.” to read: “Declaring that a vacancy exists on the Board by reason of the failure of the failure or neglect of a school director to qualify, as may be required by School Code.”</p> <p><u>Under Work Sessions:</u> The second sentence should read “...; the President shall call such a meeting when requested to do so by three (3) Board members. Public...” Delete the final paragraph - “The Board shall meet...”</p> <p><u>Under Committee Meetings:</u> The first sentence should read: “Regular meetings of the Standing committees may be called...”</p>
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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.