

Milford Policy Committee Minutes
November 15, 2016
SAU Conference Room

Superintendent Marquis opened the meeting at 9:30 AM.

Committee members present:

Paul Dargie – School Board

Robert Marquis - Superintendent of Schools

Jennifer Burk - Business Administrator

Anthony DeMarco - Middle School Principal

Janice French – Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Mr. Robert Willette was unable to attend.

Policy 3570 – Special Education Evaluation Procedures and Evaluation Requirements for Children With Specific Learning Disabilities.

Mr. Marquis explained that the intent of this revision is to ensure compliance with all special education rules as well as to ensure consistency with NHDOE recommendations. New Hampshire School Board Association recommends that since all special education evaluations are governed by State law, recitation of laws specific to special education evaluation via school board policy is unnecessarily repetitive and duplicative. The Association recommends a statement in our policy directing interested persons to the NHDOE's Special Education Procedures Manual.

This policy will be presented for first reading at the November 21, 2016 School Board meeting.

Policy 2421 – Procedural Safeguards: Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Handicap or Disability.

This policy revision is similar to the one above. New Hampshire School Board Association recommends a statement in our policy directing interested persons to the NHDOEs Special Education Procedures Manual.

This policy will be presented for first reading at the November 21, 2016 School Board meeting.

Policy 2410 – Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check.

Superintendent Marquis referred to the NH Department of Education Technical Advisory regarding school employees and volunteer criminal history records check. The Department of Safety reports back to the employer via a letter whether the applicant has any felony or misdemeanor convictions. The department does not provide any specifics regarding any conviction. However, if the Superintendent is interested in obtaining the applicant's New Hampshire criminal conviction record in addition to receiving the letter from the Department of Safety, the applicant will be asked to fill out the NH Criminal History Record Information Release Authorization Form, and then there is an additional fee of \$25.00.

Discussion ensued as to whether the District will pay the additional funds, or would the applicant be responsible for payment.

It was decided that the District would pay the additional \$25.00, if that report was needed, as long as the total cost of the criminal records check did not exceed \$100.00.

No changes are required for this policy.

Policy 5008 – Weapons on School Property.

Changes to this policy are required in order to comply with Federal law regarding concealed carry permits.

This policy will be presented for first reading at the November 21, 2016 School Board meeting.

Policy 2298 – Video and Audio Recording in School Classrooms.

Amendments to the policy are necessary to clarify how and why video and/or audio recordings may be used within the school per passage of HB1372.

This policy will be presented for first reading at the November 21, 2016 School Board meeting.

Policy 2320 – School Lunch Management.

Business Administrator, Jen Burk, spoke regarding The NH Department of Education Technical Advisory regarding meal charge policies.

Mr. Dargie questioned whether the District should have a line item in the budget for food service short falls. Ms. Burk will review the possibilities.

The current policy meets all required guidelines, and no changes are necessary.

Policy 3551 – Access to Public School Programs by Nonpublic School, Charter School, and Home-Educated Pupils.

This is a new policy that will be presented for first reading at the November 21, 2016 School Board meeting. Charter school students are now included in the “equal access” to school district programs per HB 555. School board policies regulating participation in curricular courses and co-curricular programs cannot be more restrictive for non-public, public chartered school, or home educated pupils than the policy governing the school district’s resident pupils.

The word “resident” was inserted before the word “pupil” in the first sentence of the proposed policy to ensure those pupils are residents of Milford.

Superintendent Marquis will further review the New Hampshire School Board Associations recommendations to ensure all policies are up to date.

The committee approved the minutes from the October 11, 2016 Policy Committee meeting. All in favor.

The next meeting has been set for Tuesday, December 13, 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice French
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent