

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Ashby – Pepperell – Townsend, Massachusetts

POLICY REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday April 13, 2015
Educational Support Center

PRESENT

Chairperson	Randee Rusch	Member, At-Large
Left at 10:00 a.m.	Anne Adams	Member, Pepperell
	Susan Robbins	Member, Townsend
	Joan Landers	Superintendent of Schools

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Susan Robbins, seconded by Anne Adams to approve the minutes of March 17, 2015. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Policy GBEE Social Networking: The Superintendent asked if we could hold this until next meeting, where Mr. Hamond was unable to attend today. The Subcommittee had some questions in regards to being able to track Twitter and Instagram and if the district had the capability to do so. The Superintendent recommends reviewing this policy with Jeremy Hamond, IT Director and Janet Yost, Union President and bringing it back to the next meeting. A motion was made by Anne Adams and seconded by Randee Rusch to send policy GBEE Social Networking for review to Jeremy Hamond, IT Director and Janet Yost, Union President. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Policy AC Non-Discrimination: The policy subcommittee requested that in paragraph one remove the second sentence and in the third sentence add “North Middlesex Regional” in front of the School Committee. In bullet number three, replace the word “work” with “strive”. In bullet five, replace the word “within” with the word “in.” In bullet six, remove “Initiate a process of reviewing” and change to “Conduct an ongoing review of.”

A motion was made by Susan Robbins, seconded by Anne Adams to approve the following policy as amended and forward to the full committee for a 1st reading. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Policy EEAG Student Transportation in Private Vehicles: The policy subcommittee requested “North Middlesex Regional” be added at the beginning of the first sentence. In the second sentence, the subcommittee changed “private” to “privately owned or district vehicles.” In bullet number four, changed the word “town’s”, to “district’s”. In bullet five added “or district” after the word owned.

A motion was made by Anne Adams and seconded by Susan Robbins to approve the following policy as amended and forward to the full committee for a 1st reading. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Policy GCB Employment of Principals: Randee Rusch is working on different language options under compensation/benefits levels. She has a call into Mike Gilbert at MASC and will bring revised recommendations back to the next subcommittee meeting.

5. Policy GCG Substitute Professional Staff Employment

Randee Rusch provided the subcommittee with recommended language to the policy:

After the first paragraph in the existing policy, add:

1. Short-term substitute teachers: Substitutes who teach a particular class for less than 30 days and are paid the daily rate.
2. Long-term substitute teachers: Substitutes who teach a particular class for more than 30 days and are paid the daily rate for the first 30 days and then will be paid at the lowest teacher step for the remainder of the assignment.
3. Long-term permanent substitute teachers: Substitutes who are hired for a full school year and will be paid at the lowest teacher step from the first day of the assignment. Only long term permanent substitutes shall be offered benefits.

All long-term substitutes shall be approved by the superintendent.

A motion was made by Anne Adams and seconded by Susan Robbins to approve the following policy as amended and forward to the full committee for a 1st reading. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Policy GCIA Philosophy of Staff Development: The subcommittee discussed the policy.

A motion was made by Susan Robbins and seconded by Anne Adams to not approve policy GCIA Philosophy of Staff Development at North Middlesex Regional School District. The motion passed unanimously.

Anne Adams left the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

7. Policy GCJ Professional Teacher Status: The subcommittee requested in paragraph one to remove the last two sentences. In paragraph two, the subcommittee added a comma after June 15, and the word “required.” In paragraphs three and four, requested to change the word “abolished” to “eliminated” and “abolishing” to “eliminating”. In the references at the bottom of the page, the subcommittee removed the statement “Established by law and Committee policy,” and added “M.G.L. 71.42B” to Legal Refs: and removed the MASC note.

A motion was made by Susan Robbins, seconded by Randee Rusch to approve the following policy as amended and forward to the full committee for a 1st reading. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Policy GCK Professional Staff Assignments and Transfers:

A motion was made by Susan Robbins, seconded by Randee Rusch not to adopt policy GCK Professional Staff Assignments and Transfers at North Middlesex Regional School District. The motion passed unanimously.

The subcommittee called Mike Gilbert from the MASC to get his feedback on the four similar topic policies.

- a) Policy IJOA Field Trips
- b) Policy IJOA-1 Field Trips
- c) Policy JJH Student Travel
- d) Policy JJH-R Student Travel Regulations

In speaking with Mike Gilbert, he explained that IJOA and IJOA-1 are the same policy; you can pick one or the other or merge information from both documents. The IJOA policies are recommended guidelines for day field trips facilitated by the district.

JJH and JJH-R are recommended guidelines for overnight field trips. Mr. Gilbert stated for any overnight field trips that the District is planning, organizing, and scheduling these are the recommended guidelines. Mr. Gilbert also stated that the North Middlesex School District should not approve and will not assume any liability for the operations of any third party company providing services to the districts, its employees, volunteers, or students for any student activities or travel on overnight field trips.

The subcommittee ran out of time and recommended finishing this policy at the next meeting

TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Policy GBEE Social Networking
- b) Policy GCBB Employment of Principals
- c) Policy IJOA Field Trips
- d) Policy IJOA-1 Field Trips
- e) Policy JJH Student Travel
- f) Policy JJH-R Student Travel Regulations

NEW BUSINESS

- e) Policy GCO Evaluation of Professional Staff
- f) Policy GCQD Resignation of Professional Staff Members
- g) Policy GCQE Retirement of Professional Staff Members
- h) Policy GCQF Suspension and Dismissal of Professional Staff Members

TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- a) Policy KHB-E Advertising in the Schools (Contract Pricing)
- b) Admission Fees
- c) Policy GCBA-E Salary Ranges for Non-Represented Personnel
- d) Policy ADF School District Wellness Program
- e) Policy IGA Curriculum Development
- f) Policy IGD Curriculum Adoption
- g) Policy IL Evaluation of Instructional Programs
- h) Policy Out of State Tuition
- i) Policy JRD Student Photographs

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The policy subcommittee will review dates to hold a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Susan Robbins and seconded by Randee Rusch to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Bilotta-Simeone, Recording Secretary