

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

POLICY REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, May 10, 2016  
North Middlesex Regional High School

PRESENT

Chairperson	Randee Rusch	Member, At-Large
	Anne Adams	Member, Pepperell
	Susan Robbins	Member, Townsend
	Crystal Messamore	Member, Ashby ~ Absent

ALSO PRESENT

Joan Landers	Superintendent
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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:39 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Anne Adams and seconded by Susan Robbins to approve the minutes of April 12, 2016.

Vote: Susan Robbins yes; Randee Rusch yes; Anne Adams abstained. The motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review the following policies:

- a) IB, Academic Freedom  
Following discussion, the subcommittee recommends that the chair researches the purpose of this policy with Mike Gilbert from the MASC.  
Vote: Unanimously passed
- b) IC/ICA, School Year/School Calendar  
Following discussion, the subcommittee agreed to have the Superintendent research this policy with the DESE to verify the updated regulations and bring recommendations to the next policy meeting.
- c) ID, School Day  
Following discussion, the subcommittee recommended that in the first sentence remove the section “is established in the collective bargaining agreements with the various school unions.” The subcommittee added “school” in front of “committee” throughout the policy. In paragraph three, second sentence, the committee changed the word “children” to “student” and added, “To refer to individual school handbooks for procedures on acceptable building entrance times for students.”  
A motion was made by Anne Adams, seconded by Susan Robbins to bring the amended ID, School Day policy to the full committee for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading.  
Vote: Unanimously passed
- d) IE, Organization of Instruction  
Following discussion, the subcommittee made a couple of recommendations on the title of the policy, “Organization of Instruction by Grades and Buildings or Instructional Organizational of Grades/Programs Buildings.”

The committee recommended removing paragraph 3 through 6 and replacing them with: “The school committee, based on Superintendent’s recommendation, will approve the structure of the school district by grades and buildings.” “Changes to special education needs will be brought separately to the school committee upon recommendations of the special education director and the Superintendent.” The chair is going to work on language suggestions and bring IE policy back to the committee for review.

e) IMG, Animals in School ~

Following discussion, Mrs. Rusch shared her recommendations with the committee, under the heading of Conditions for Allowing Animals in School, “In an effort to reduce the chances of transmitting rabies and other zoonotic diseases (those transmitted from animals to people) to staff and students, the following conditions must be met before allowing animals in the classroom:

- The principal of the building must approve all animals to be brought into the classroom.
- The animal (to be brought in) must have an educational purpose.
- The animal must be free of diseases and if applicable have a rabies certification.
- The animal must not be a wild or stray animal (dead or alive) unless under the control of a licensed professional.
- The animal must not be poisonous.
- Where appropriate, the source of the animal should be from a licensed professional company with certification of health.

A motion was made by Anne Adams, seconded by Susan Robbins to bring the amended IMG, Animals in School policy to the full committee for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

Vote: Unanimously passed

f) GCG, Substitute Professional Staff Employment

Following discussion, the subcommittee recommended adding “Nurses” within the policy. The subcommittee also changed in bullet 1, “less than 30 days” to read “30 days or less.”

A motion was made by Anne Adams, seconded by Susan Robbins to bring the amended GCG, Substitute Professional Staff Employment policy to the full committee for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

Vote: Unanimously passed

g) ADDA-R2, Procedure for Owners of Challenge Courses

ADDA-R3, Procedure for Owners of Climbing Walls

Following discussion, and based on the requirements from the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety, the subcommittee is recommending adoption of these policies.

A motion was made by Anne Adams, seconded by Susan Robbins to bring policy ADDA-R2 and ADDA-R3 to the full committee for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

Vote: Unanimously passed

h) DN, School Property Disposal

Following discussion, the subcommittee recommended adding as bullet a. “Obsolete library books may be offered free of charge to students.” The subcommittee added #5. “Items not covered above may come to the school committee for consideration.”

A motion was made by Susan Robbins, seconded by Anne Adams to bring the amended DN, School Property Disposal policy to the full committee for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

Vote: Unanimously passed

i) JLCD, Administering Medicines to Students

Following discussion, the subcommittee recommended adding “In the North Middlesex Regional School District” to the first sentence.

A motion was made by Anne Adams, seconded by Susan Robbins to bring the amended JLCD, Administering Medicines to Students to the full committee for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

Vote: Unanimously passed

#### NEW BUSINESS

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

#### TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Review the following policies:

- a) Political Policy

#### FUTURE MEETING DATES

Tuesday, May 24, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. at the North Middlesex Regional High School

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Anne Adams, seconded by Susan Robbins to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joanna Bilotta-Simeone, Recording Secretary