

MINUTES

SAU 39 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 28, 2022

BRICK SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM

PRESENT: SCSD Board Members: Anna Goulet-Zimmerman; **ASD Board Members:** Victoria Parisi, Josh Conklin; **MVSD Board Members:** Sarah Lawrence (Chair), Jessica Hinckley; **Superintendent:** Steve Chamberlin; **Administrative Assistant:** Abby Wallace; **Public:** Steve Coughlan (Minute-taker).

Chair Sarah Lawrence – Call to order at 8:11 AM.

Approval of Minutes: Victoria P. moved to approve the minutes from 7/14/22, Jessica H. seconded, minutes approved 4-0 (1 abstention).

Policy IGE, Parents/Legal Guardians Request for Exception to Specific Course Material: Policy was previously acted on by the committee, Josh C. was to make style edits if needed. Josh started that no style edits were required, so no amendment to the existing policies is required.

Policy BGAA, Policy Development System: There was a request from a member of the public to add a member of the public to the Policy Committee. General agreement that policy development is a board function, and committee members should be elected board members. The public is given opportunities at board meetings to comment on policies (under consideration or new ideas), and the public can attend committee meetings as observers. A board member asked that the policy be amended to include how the policy committee is constituted. General agreement to document the current process as a new section A. Steve C. recommended making Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents *ex officio* non-voting members. Motion to make noted edits and recommend the policy to the boards made by Anna G-Z., seconded by Victoria P., unanimous. Steve C. will make edits for the 8/11 meeting.

Policy GCEB, Principal Recruitment and Appointment: Anna G-Z. noted that “administrative staff” is ambiguous to her, and could mean all administrative personnel such as admin assistants. She also noted that the policy includes a reference to teachers, who are not administrators. Discussion about giving priority to candidates who seek long-term employment: language comes from the NHSBA model, consensus that it is not needed. Focus moved to **Policy GCE, Professional Staff Recruiting**, which exists only in Souhegan, since 1991, and **Policy GCC, Staff Recruitment**, which exists in Mont Vernon since 1996 and is very outdated. Sarah L. noted that a new GCC is part of the review this year, and it probably should replace the old Mont Vernon GCC and review the Souhegan GCE when it’s considered. Anna G-Z. made the edits discussed and saved a “final red-line” version in the Trello card. After discussion explicitly adding the Souhegan AD and Director of Guidance, it was decided to leave the proposed language as is. Josh C. moved to move the Anna G-Z. red-line version to the boards, Anna G-Z. seconded, unanimous.

Policy DAF, Grant Management: Anna G-Z. asked if it would be better to generalize the statement about Huawei, to refer to the source of the ban (the “Entities List”), so that changes in a specific company’s status won’t cause us to have to amend to policy at irregular intervals. Sarah L. suggested approving the language as to get the policy in force, and doing future research to see if the language could be

broadened to cover all entities without requiring specific enumeration. Josh C. moved to send the proposed edited version to the boards, Anna G-Z seconded, unanimous.

Policy IHBG, Participation in Public School Activities by Home Educated, Charter, and Non-Public

Sudents: Victoria P. is waiting from confirmation from Christine L. that the model language is not a problem to adopt. The new language is consistent with 2020 changes to Ed 315. IHBG currently exists (since 2018), the new language mostly is about giving parents options for who they notify. Steve Ch. Stated it shouldn't be an issue to adopt the new model, as the items that impact the SAU/Districts aren't changed from the existing version. Anna G-Z. asked if the references to other policies are still valid, and a quick check was done. Motion by Victoria P., seconded by Josh C., unanimous.

Policy JH, Attendance and Truancy: Mont Vernon also has **JHB-R, Truancy**, from 2003 which includes daily fines for parents of truant students. Jessica H. moved to recommend repealing JHB-R in Mont Vernon, Sarah L. seconded, unanimous. Steve Ch. noted that Souhegan Community Council passed a motion to include "mental health" days as valid excused absences, which was discussed at the May 19, 2022 SCSB meeting. CC proposed inserting #7 "Tending to mental or behavioral health", making the existing #7 a new #8. There was additional clarifying language around health referrals for student who miss two days in a row for this, or more than 3 days in a semester. Anna G-Z. questioned when and whether written notices from parents is required, or is verbal notice sufficient. Steve Ch. noted that NH has mandatory attendance for all students 18, and the prior written notice provisions are there to make (for example) pre-approved absences for vacation during school time excused absences. The law requires a truancy intervention plan for any student who misses 10 half-days unexcused. General agreement that the language works for all districts. Victoria P. will incorporate the language and JH will be acted on at the next meeting.

Policy BBBC, Board Member or District Officer Resignation: John G. was going to speak to this but couldn't attend. Anna G-Z. noted that it was adopted in 2021, but needs some minor scrivener cleanup, and proposed acting on it now, and John G. can reopen the discussion later if he wishes. She recommends cleaning up the typos/consistency issues and marking it "reviewed" with no further action, and Josh C. agreed. Motion by Victoria P, seconded by Anna G-Z., unanimous.

Policy IHCD/LEB, Advanced Coursework: Anna G-Z. noted there was a reference to Policy IKFG, which doesn't exist. Previously recommended to be rescinded in ASD and MVSD. Other language recommendations were discussed and approved earlier in Policy Committee. Discussion about items B.9 and B.10, decided to retain them, just dropping the reference to IKFG. Anna G-Z made the edit and saved it to Trello. Motion to move it forwards as edited made by Josh C., seconded by Anna G-Z., unanimous. Policy is not applicable outside grades 10-12. Motion to rescind IHCD/LEV in MVSD and ASD made by Josh C., seconded by Anna G-Z., unanimous.

Emergency Policy on Personal Protective Measures: Steve Ch. stated that the administration does not need this policy any longer. The Four Chairs had discussed this as well, and agreed it was not necessary. Steve Ch. also checked with Adam Steel, and there was no known reason to retain it. Motion to recommend rescission in all districts made by Jessica H., seconded by Anna G-Z, unanimous.

Policy GA, Personnel Goals: Anna G-Z. noted that the only difference between the Souhegan and model policies as the reference to collective bargaining, and suggested to mark it as "Reviewed" and take no further action. Discussion about relation to PPC at Souhegan. PPC needs to review and comments on

any changes to G Policies prior to board action. A Policy Committee Souhegan representative should schedule any G policy changes through the Board PPC representatives for review at PPC, and it's appropriate to attend and present at PPC for those discussions.

Policy GBA, Non-Discrimination/Equal Opportunity: doesn't exist in any district. NHSBA recommends rescission as it's covered by AC. No action required.

Policy GBAA, Sexual Harassment: recommended for rescission by NHSBA, doesn't exist in any district, no action required. (Covered by AC, ACAC)

Policy GBAB, Environment Free of Sexual Harassment: Exists only in Souhegan. Should be rescinded, as it's covered by AC, ACAC.

Motion by Josh C. to recommend the above dispositions for **GA** (show as reviewed, no further action), **GBA** (no action required), **GBAA** (no action required), and **GBAB** (rescind in Souhegan), seconded by Anna G-Z., unanimous

Policy GBBA, Personnel Policies Committee (Souhegan only): Anna G-Z. recommends marking this as reviewed with no further action. She noted a typo in the published version, where the word "chairperson" is crossed out near the bottom of Page 1. Agreed it was a scrivener's error, probably related to the last revision when gender-neutral terminology was substituted and it should be changed to remove the cross-out.

Policy GBB, Employee Involvement in Decision Making: Anna G-Z. recommends no action.

Policy GBEC, Drug-Free Workplace and Drug-Free Schools: Jessica H. said it was recently updated, and just needs to be marked as "reviewed". Motion to do so made by Jessica H., seconded by Ana G-Z., unanimous.

Policy GBCB, Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace: Mislabeled on the MV website. It displays **GBCD, BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION AND CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK**. There is no GBCB in the models or any other district, and the MV website has a separate entry/link to GBCD also, so the only action required is to remove the erroneous GBCB entry from the website.

Policy ADC/GBED/JICG, Prohibitions Regarding Use and Possession of Tobacco Products, E-Cigarettes and E-Liquids In and On School Facilities and Grounds: Jessica H. stated it's required by law, and is updated to include e-liquids. This is the same policy, indexed in the A index, G index, and J index. Jessica H. stated that there is currently no GBED anywhere. Motion to adopt GBED in all districts and the SAU, adopt ADC and JICG in the SAU, and amend ADC/JICG with this common language in all districts made by Josh C., seconded by Victoria P., unanimous.

Policy GBGA, Staff Health: Jessica H. stated that it was recently reviewed, Deanna C. thinks it's OK as is, so it just needs to be marked as "Reviewed". Jessica H. moved to mark it as reviewed, Josh C. seconded, unanimous.

Policy GBGBA, Use of Automatic External Defibrillators: Jessica H. stated that SHS has JLCEA (2003) which is a much broader and is about school based broad access AED program, and she's not sure that this is necessary and does not match JLCEA that the NHSBA has. SHS, Amherst, MVVS and SAU has KFD which is very similar and was adopted in 2020 or 2021. She recommends rescinding JLCEA

at Souhegan, and adopting GBGEA model language everywhere. Amherst, Mont Vernon, Souhegan and SAU also have KFD (Use and Location of AEDs). Motion to amend/adopt GBGEA/JLCEA/KFD everywhere using the model language (deleting the last sentences of paragraphs 4 & 5 – references to KFD-R and sample forms) made by Victoria P., seconded by Josh C., unanimous.

Policy JICC, Student Conduct on Busses: Doesn't exist in any district. Josh C. recommends deferring to the administration as to whether this is a board policy or just Student Handbook material. Deferred to 8/11 meeting to get input from Christine L. and Amy F.

Policy JICD, Student Discipline and Due Process: Josh C. noted there are some minor changes in the model to reflect current law that were added to the model just as we were approving our current version in October 2021, and it is a required policy. He recommends amending our version with the model changes highlighted in green (how expulsions are handled), since we have common preface material unique to SAU39 in our policies. Steve Ch. described the philosophy that is used across SAU3 schools: intervention by a teacher is only required when a student is disrupting education for others or preventing the teacher from teaching. Lack of attention that is not disruptive is not a disciplinary issue. Sarah L. asked if Steve Ch. could incorporate that language into the policy for the August 11 meeting and he agreed.

Policy Committee Quorum rules: Josh C. moved to change the quorum for the committee to be at least one member from each board (Amherst, Mont Vernon, Souhegan), Jessica H. seconded, unanimous.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 2, 8AM-Noon at the Brick School. A quorum, but not a full committee, is expected. Steve Ch. will not be attending.

Meeting adjourned by Sarah L. at 10:49 AM.