

Policy Committee Meeting
Tuesday, July 23, 2019 | 1:00 PM
Keil Building | 2nd Floor Conference Room A

Members Present: Beth Creighton; Todd Covault; Superintendent Paul Fregeau; and Andrew Taylor

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Charlotte Thompson

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM. There was no public participation. The minutes from the June 11, 2019 meeting were approved by acclamation.

“Policy Updating” Article

- Committee was provided an article from PRESS regarding Policy Updating
- Highlights from Article:
 - Cross Reference Change – Does not require formal adoption by the Board
 - Legal Reference Change – Does require formal adoption by the Board

PRESS June 2019 Quarterly Release

- Committee reviewed policies with recommended changes
- Committee members had questions regarding the below policies:
 - 2:110 – *School Board – Qualifications, Terms, and Duties of Board Officers*
 - #10 under sub-head “*President*” the word “*Administer*” was questioned
 - Going forward, the Board President will administer the oath of office to new Board members (currently the Superintendent has this duty)
 - 2:140 – *School Board – Communications To and From the Board*
 - Footnote #2
 - Can a link be provided on the District website to have all Board members email addresses on it
 - If the link is provided, does the District have to comply with the new recommended language (#2 under the second paragraph)
 - Administration will have a conversation with Counsel
 - 2:240 – *School Board – Board Policy Development*
 - Footnote #5
 - Needs to be customized to include where and how policies are available
 - 3:10 – *General School Administration – Goals and Objectives*
 - Can the policy be adjusted due to the Strategic Plan?
 - Can we make the policy longer with the Decatur Public Schools mission?
 - 4:20 – *Operational Services – Fund Balances*
 - Footnote #2 (Optional)
 - Question about 35% fund balances
 - It was decided that 20% (current policy) is a good fund balance
 - 4:90 – *Operational Services – Activity Funds*
 - What is an activity fund in Decatur Public Schools?
 - Example: If a High School Football team wants to do a fundraiser to buy a coach bus instead of taking school bus, this would be an activity fund
 - 5:40 – *General Personnel – Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease*
 - Does the District currently have a Chronic Infectious Disease Review Team?
 - Administration will check with Angie Wetzel

- 6:340 – *Instruction – Student Testing and Assessment Program*
 - Footnote #5 - Districts must present the report cards at a regular board meeting
 - The District currently complies

Possible first read of the policies with recommended updates at the first Board meeting in September.

Closing Schools Procedure – 4:150 – Operating Services – APDI Administrative Procedure – Opening or Closing an Attendance Center

- Procedure must be Board approved
- Administration asked committee members if they want to leave procedure as is with the same time line; or, streamline the procedure
 - Streamline per committee member Creighton
 - Superintendent Fregeau will take the lead
- Is the public hearing statutorily required?
- Next steps - Present updated facility plan with schools coming off line; Board votes if it is an approved plan

Policy 6:50 – Instruction – School Wellness

- Wellness Committee recommended updates to policy
- Make sure Board policy aligns with what State regulations are
- Senate Bill 1947 – passed in 2017
 - Update – physical activity education at a minimum 3 times per week in a 5-day week, unless otherwise exempt
 - Not currently doing this district-wide

Policy 6:280 – Instruction - Grading and Promotion

- Retention language questioned
- Recommended to update policy to align with PRESS
 - Update PARCC to IAR
 - Might need to tweak after going through the updated policy after a year

Policy 2:150 – School Board – Committees

- Update policy from prior committee minutes
- Negotiations waiver discussed
 - Appraisal Action Committee; Discipline Action Committee; and Schedule B Committee
 - Counsel to talk to DEA representative/legal representative (monthly meeting or contract monitoring) exploring waiver for three committees?
 - Superintendent Fregeau will take the lead

Early Kindergarten Admissions Policies

- Charlotte Thompson and Lawrence Trimble will review policies and report back

Social Media Policy (Acceptable Use Policy)

- Administration narrowed options down to two (2) options from five (5) to present to policy committee
- View social media policy at end of public works
 - In the works (Human Resources Department)
- Option B recommended by committee members
 - Change “you agree” to “I agree”

One to One Policy

- Handbook language reviewed
 - SEA problem
 - Perfunctory approval at July 23, 2019 Board of Education Meeting
 - If there is a desire to return to 3:1 or 2:1 the language in the Administrative/Administrative Support Handbook would need to be updated

Set Future Meeting

- August 20 at 3:00 PM

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM