

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020

6:30 p.m. in the District Office Conference Room

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

Spring-Ford Area School District strives to be educationally relevant, focused on achievement and growth, and have a priority on people so that students are fully prepared to positively contribute to their society.

CALL TO ORDER

IN ATTENDANCE:

- Board Members – Wendy Earle, Linda Fazzini, Diane Sullivan, Colleen Zasowski (Committee Chair)
- District Representatives – Chief David Boyer, Erin Crew, Jim Fink, Bob Rizzo
- Community Members – Will Cromley

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

II. MINUTES - From October 14, 2019 and November 11, 2019 October 14, 2019 minutes approved; November 11, 2019 minutes not approved. Will bring November 11, 2019 minutes forward in February for approval.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Medical excuse update – Administration discussed that a demo is being set up with SchoolMessenger and we are working to schedule visitations to discuss digital submission of excuses. Further updates will be brought back in February
- B. Policy 225 – Students and the Police – Committee briefly reviewed policy after solicitor reviewed and made minor edits. Policy will be brought forward for a first reading at the upcoming Board workshop.
- C. Policy 705 – Safety – Committee briefly reviewed policy after solicitor reviewed and made minor edits. Policy will be brought forward for a first reading at the upcoming Board workshop.
- D. Policy 709 – Building Security – Committee briefly reviewed policy after solicitor reviewed and made minor edits. Policy will be brought forward for a first reading at the upcoming Board workshop.

- E. Policy 911 – News Media Relations – Committee briefly reviewed policy after solicitor reviewed and made minor edits. Policy will be brought forward for a first reading at the upcoming Board workshop.
- F. Policy 208 – Withdrawal from School – Committee previously approved this policy to come forward for a first reading in November. It will be added to the list of policies scheduled for a first reading at the upcoming Board workshop.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Mass Policy Update Discussion
 - i. Migration to BoardDocs as was used prior to 2016
 - 1. Link to BoardDocs and easier to remain ADA compliant with fewer .pdfs on the site
 - 2. Easier to facilitate PSBA recommended language and updates
 - ii. Slightly over 300 policies approved
 - 1. 116 will have their 29th birthday this March without review
 - 2. 22 have not been reviewed since 2000 or earlier
 - 3. 62 are 10-19 years old without recent review
 - 4. Since January, 2010, 106 policies have been created, revised, or reviewed
 - iii. As per the recommendation of our school solicitor, a thorough revamping of all of our policies is needed and he recommends we begin with the 100s
 - Discussion regarding the direction the committee will go with respect to organizing the policies and updating language under solicitor advisement. Recommendation to begin with the 100s and continue to develop over the next 2-3 years.
- B. Policy 204 – Attendance
 - Discussion tabled due to lack of time to appropriately dig into the policy. Will be brought back in February for consideration and review.
- C. Policy 150 – Title I – Comparability of Services (New Policy)
 - i. Mandated for those school entities receiving Title I funds.
 - Policy was discussed and revised. Committee recommended that the policy be sent to the solicitor and brought back to the committee in January for further review.
- D. Policy 808 – Food Services (Adopted in 1991)
 - i. Required for auditing purposes
 - Policy was discussed and revised. Committee recommended that the policy be sent to the solicitor and brought back to the committee in January for further review.
- E. Policy 702.2 – Crowdfunding (New Policy)
 - Policy was discussed and revised. Committee recommended that the policy be sent to the solicitor and brought back to the committee in January for further review.
- F. Policy 248 – Rescind as per Policy Committee discussion on 6.11.2018. Minutes state, “*The committee reviewed this NEW policy (as per PSBA and Spring-Ford Legal Council) and made some suggestions and changes. Dr. Roche will update*

the draft with the suggestions and bring back to the September 12, 2018 Policy Committee for further consideration. In addition, once Policy 104 is moved forward for a first reading, the committee also need to move forward a recommendation to rescind and retire Policies 248 & 348 to be in line with the PSBA Policy recommendations.”

- Rescinding Policy 248 was discussed and agreed upon. Will be brought forward as a motion to be rescinded at the upcoming Board meeting. 348, 448, 548 were all rescinded during the October 15, 2018 Board meeting.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Equity policy in the works

- i. Draft Purpose - To create an environment that fosters awareness and self-awareness of diverse perspectives and backgrounds; to build a community where everyone feels accepted and valued, and to be purposeful in looking for value in others. We strive to overcome conscious and unconscious bias, participate in courageous conversations and create an inclusive culture that welcomes the diverse beauty of the entire school community.

- Committee was informed that an Equity Policy will be coming forward in February for consideration after initial review and edits by the District’s Equity Committee.

B. Policy 138 – Limited English Proficiency Program

- Committee was informed that Policy 138 will be coming forward in February for consideration after initial review and edits by Administration.

X. ACTIONABLE ITEMS

A. Policies brought forward for a first reading

- i. Policy 208 – Withdrawal from School
- ii. Policy 225 – Students and the Police
- iii. Policy 705 – Safety
- iv. Policy 709 – Building Security
- v. Policy 911 – News Media Relations

B. Policies to be sent to the solicitor for review

- i. Policy 150 – Title I – Comparability of Services
- ii. Policy 702.2 – Crowdfunding
- iii. Policy 808 – Food Services

C. Policy brought forward to be rescinded

- i. Policy 248 – Sexual Harassment

XI. NEEDS FOR NEXT MEETING

XII. BOARD COMMENT

XIII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

XIV. ADJOURNMENT