

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY  
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
ADMINISTRATIVE MINUTES OF MARCH 13, 2019

The Board of Education Policy Committee met at 1:00 p.m. on the above date at the school system headquarters, 2644 Riva Road in Annapolis. Board members present were Michelle Corkadel, Chair; Julie Hummer, Josie Urrea and Dana Schallheim. Staff members present were Jeanette Ortiz, Legislative and Policy Counsel; Darren Burns, Board Counsel; Bob Mosier, Chief Communications Officer; Walter Federowicz, Director of Internal Audit; Carol Ann McCurdy, Director, Partnerships, Development and Marketing; Matt Stanski, Director of Financial Operations; Maureen McMahan, Deputy Superintendent for Academics and Strategic Initiatives; Dawn Lucarelli, Association Superintendent, Office of School Performance; Maneka Monk, Senior Communications Manager; Michelle Batten, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Bobbi Pedrick, Director of Special Education; Nikki Burns, Legislative and Policy Specialist; and Molly Connolly, Executive Assistant to the Board. Also present was Brandon Gully, Citizens Advisory Committee.

Ms. Corkadel opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Corkadel read the Policy Committee meeting Openers; including a formal definition of "Policy;" the Board of Education Mission Statement; and a summary of the Maryland Open Meetings Act. The minutes of February 13, 2019 were approved by consensus.

The first item for review was Regulation DJ-RA, Grants, Mini-Grants and Special Projects. Ms. Ortiz noted that the regulation's last revision was in 2017, and the edits included primarily clean-up language. In response to questions by Ms. Corkadel, Ms. McCurdy provided details on criteria for grant proposals. She also informed the committee that the Grants Officer on her staff can provide a wealth of information on the topic. Ms. McCurdy also answered questions by Mr. Federowicz on topics related to fundraising and raffles. Ms. Ortiz will review the language in the regulation and follow up with the committee at the next meeting.

The next item for consideration was Policy II and Regulation II-RA, Grading. Discussion primarily centered on the designation of a graduating valedictorian and salutatorian vs. Latin honors recognitions. Dr. McMahan provided a rationalization for Latin honors recognitions in addition to the designation of valedictorian and salutatorian, noting that more students can be honored. Dr. Lucarelli addressed designation of speakers at graduation, noting that the process in place is fair. There was agreement among the committee to delete from the regulation under Procedures (8) "Each high school shall annually designate a graduating valedictorian and salutatorian."

After extended discussion, consensus was reached to review the grading policy and bring it back to the April policy committee meeting.

The next item for consideration was Policy IFF and Regulation IFF-RA, Special Education Programs for Students with Disabilities. Ms. Schallheim posed numerous questions and comments which were addressed by Ms. Pedrick. On the topic of Special Education handbooks, Ms. Pedrick noted that there are two handbooks, one for the professionals which goes into great detail; and another for parents which is more simplistic in style and content. It was decided that on the special education page of the school system website, a link to the E-Handbook for parents will be added. This will increase visibility in the community about special education issues.

New Business: Ms. Corkadel stated that she would like to review Policy JAA and Regulation JAA-RA, Redistricting and Attendance areas. Mr. Mosier noted that a review of the policy and regulation should be taken after the redistricting action this spring. Ms. Corkadel asked the committee to begin review of the policy and come back to the committee with recommendations in May.

Ms. Corkadel asked Ms. Connolly if there is a concise way in which to display all policy considerations and revisions in one place so that Board members can easily view the work of the Policy Committee. Ms. Connolly noted that a new page could be added to the private site and that she will make sure that is accomplished.

The committee adjourned at 3:00 p.m.