

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2018

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 Josie Urrea, Chair; Julie Hummer, Michelle Corkadel, 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; Nikki Burns, Legislative and Policy Specialist; Michele Batten, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Mary Tillar, Assistant Superintendent for Advanced Studies and Programs; Rich Burger, Lead Teacher Specialist for Signature Programs; Jason Dykstra, Executive Director, Instructional Data Division; Kellie Katzenberger, Senior Manager of Research; and Molly Connolly, Executive Assistant to the Board. Also present was Tanisha Howard, Citizens Advisory Committee.

Ms. Urrea opened the meeting with a review of the minutes of November 7, 2018. The minutes were approved by consensus. Ms. Ortiz reviewed basic information for the benefit of new Board members; specifically, that policy is under the purview of the Board and regulation is under the purview of the Superintendent. She noted if a regulation is up for revision, it goes to the Policy Committee as a courtesy. She also explained the staff review and revision process, and how she identifies policies to review each school year.

The first policy for revision was Policy IIC - Graduation Requirements. Ms. Ortiz said that the major revision is the addition of the Global Community Citizenship course that the Board approved in 2017. The course will be a graduation requirement for students entering ninth grade for the first time in 2019. Formal implementation of this initiative requires a change to Administrative Regulation IIC-RA and clarifying language in the regulation which align it to current practice. Ms. Ortiz also informed the committee of stylistic changes in both the policy and the regulation. It was noted that the policy will come to the Board on December 19, 2018.

The next item for discussion was Regulation IEA-RA – Research. Mr. Dykstra spoke to the regulation, noting that the title of his division has changed from the Division of Accountability, Assessment and Research to Instructional Data Division. He explained the rationale behind other language changes in the policy. Ms. Katzenberger answered questions about research requests that the division receives from various entities.

Policy IFG – Health Education. Ms. Ortiz noted that the policy is being revised so that it aligns with state law and she brought to the committee’s attention additional language under C. Position, specifically, “to align with Maryland College and Career Readiness students.” Ms. Batten answered questions by Ms. Schallheim regarding LGBTQIA students. Mr. Burns suggested that under C. Position 1.e, reference be made to HIV in addition to AIDS. Committee members made other suggestions for language revisions, which Ms. Ortiz will incorporate. The policy will go to the Board for first reading on January 9, 2019.

Lastly, the committee addressed Policy BBC – Board Organizational Meeting and Board Officers. Ms. Ortiz noted that the biggest issue is for the Board to decide when and how to elect its officers now that the Board is moving from an appointed Board to an elected Board. It was suggested that under B. Issue, language will be added about the Board determining its method of voting for leadership positions. Other topics discussed were the use of the ballot process, clarifying the term “simple majority” to a five-member vote as a quorum, and different options available for how to treat the vacancy of the President or Vice President. Ms. Ortiz noted that she will also cross reference the Board Handbook where necessary. Lengthy discussion ensued on the policy revision, including discussion on a succession plan in the event of officer vacancies. The policy will come to the Board for first reading on December 19, 2018.

Adjourn: 2:40 p.m.