

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
ADMINISTRATIVE MINUTES JUNE 6, 2023
(APPROVED)

The Board of Education Policy Committee met at 3:00 p.m. on the above date virtually. Board members present were Gloria Dent, Joanna Tobin, Melissa Ellis, and Zachary McGrath. Staff members present were Grace Wilson, Legislative and Policy Specialist; Masa Conteh, Legislative and Policy Support Specialist; Bob Mosier, Chief Communications Officer; Dan Reagan, Director of Internal Audits; Darren Burns, Board Counsel; and Jackie Money, Associate Assistant to the Board of Education. Diane McGowan, Director of Specially Designed Instruction and Compliance, was also present.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mrs. Dent opened the meeting with approval of the minutes to the May 9, 2023, Committee meeting. The minutes were approved by consensus.

Policy

POLICY IFF – SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Ms. Wilson introduced Ms. Diane McGowan. Ms. Wilson then explained that this policy was last revised on May 2, 2012, and is currently being updated for style, formatting, and to add legal references. Ms. McGowan noted the changes made recognize that we serve our youngest learners with special education services. Ms. Dent expressed concern with the language “culturally responsive teaching”. Ms. McGowan explained that this language was added to reflect the work Anne Arundel County Public Schools is doing around diversity, equity, and inclusion. Mrs. Ellis stated that her interpretation of this language is that it is meant to prevent overidentification of students with disabilities. Dr. Tobin expressed that there has been a historical problem with overidentification of certain groups due to a lack of culturally responsive teaching, which is why it is so important that the language be included, although it might need to be explained further. Ms. McGowan suggested that a definition be provided for the term to improve clarity. Mr. Burns suggested including examples rather than a definition. The committee agreed. Ms. McGowan and Ms. Wilson will work on language and bring it back to the Committee at the June 27, 2023, meeting.

FYI Only – Regulations

REGULATION IFF-RA – SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Regulation IFF-RA was last updated on May 2, 2012. The regulation is being updated for style, formatting, and to add legal references and definitions. There were no questions from the Committee.

REGULATION II-RA - GRADING: Ms. Wilson informed the Committee that Regulation II-RA was promulgated on May 31, 2023. The changes made were to add definitions, alter the provisions that applied to late work and opportunity for mastery for middle school and high school students, alter the number of assignments for seniors in the fourth quarter from six to nine

to reflect the number of weeks they are in school, and to add procedures for changing a report card grade, code, or comment. There were no questions from the Committee.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Mr. Raegan inquired about the timeline for recommend changes to Policy DF – School Activity Funds Management. Ms. Wilson informed him that the policy would be included on the review schedule for the 2023-2024 school year. Mr. Raegan expressed concern that the FY2024 Annual Audit Plan does not comply with this policy as written. Mr. Raegan will bring an addendum for the FY2024 Annual Audit Plan to closed session on Wednesday, June 7, 2023, to discuss with the Board. The Committee concurred with this solution.

ADJOURN: 3:30PM