



Respectful, Responsible, Safe & Prepared

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.
Waupaca High School Community Room and [Live Stream](#)

Welcome and Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairperson Patrick Phair at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present in the WHS Community Room: All members of the Committee were present (Chairperson Patrick Phair and Steve Klismet; Mark Polebitski arrived at 5:32 p.m.). Additionally, Board members Stephen Johnson, Dale Feldt, and Steve Hackett were present; Betty Manion was present via phone.

Also Present:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Ron Saari, Sandy Lucas, and Laurie Schmidt

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Steve Klismet and seconded by Patrick Phair to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Review of Board Meeting Norms:

The Board reviewed their collective commitments.

Review Bullying Policy (NEOLA Policy 5517.01 Bullying and NEOLA Policy 5517 Student Anti-Harassment), and Non Discrimination Policy (NEOLA Policies 1422, 3122, and 4122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity, NEOLA Policy 2260 Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity, and NEOLA Policy 2266 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities):

Committee Chairperson Patrick Phair advised that he asked to review these policies due to what he had learned at the recent School Law Conference, particularly with regard to the bullying policy – that the motive behind the bullying is not important but what is important is the victim's perception of the act(s); that bullying policies shouldn't indicate that there has to be an intentional act behind the bullying; and even if the complaint comes in anonymous, it needs to be investigated.

Director of Student Services Laurie Schmidt agreed that it is about the perception of the individual being bullied. She stated that our policies are good and wouldn't recommend any edits. She also advised that if the Committee has any legal questions or requested edits, they should be directed to NEOLA for their review.

Mr. Phair noted that the Title IX Compliance Officers and their addresses are listed in our bullying and nondiscrimination policies as is required.

The Committee and Ms. Schmidt agreed that our current policies are in good standing, adding that when there's a breakdown, it is because the school district didn't follow their own policies.

Committee member Steve Klismet suggested that perhaps better communication regarding the District's bullying policy should be provided to the parents other than it being in the handbooks. Committee Chairperson Phair suggested that we could remind people of the bullying policy at our upcoming regular Board meeting on April 12.

Board Policies for Review (Section 9000) – New NEOLA Policies:

NEOLA Policy 9120 Public Information Program:

Some discussion was had regarding the development of an information program and how that differs from what we are doing now. The Committee concluded that it is important to market our District but we can do so by continuing with what we are currently doing.

NEOLA Policy 9151 Use of Cameras and Other Recording Devices in Locker Rooms

NEOLA Policy 9160 Public Attendance at School Events:

Board member Dale Feldt suggested that perhaps this policy should be posted at all events. In addition, Committee Chairperson Phair noted that the language found in the last paragraph of this policy needs to be included on all notices and other communications about school and Board events.

NEOLA Policy 9190 Charges for Career and Technical Education Projects

NEOLA Policy 9210 Parent Organizations:

Much discussion was had regarding whether a new parent organization should be required to obtain final approval by the Board as a prerequisite to organizing. The Committee was reminded that this is not for student groups or their parents, but only for parent groups. Committee member Mark Polebitski ultimately withdrew his concerns, and the Committee decided to keep the policy as is.

NEOLA Policy 9211 District-Support Organizations:

District Administrator Ron Saari advised that the District has a corporate membership with the Rotary Club and we have three administrators who are currently members. Committee Chairperson Phair asked that the District make sure that there is a representative in the Rotary Club every year.

NEOLA Policy 9250 Relations with Parents

NEOLA Policy 9500 Relations with Educational Institutions and Organizations

NEOLA Policy 9555 Partnerships with Business

NEOLA Policy 9600 Staff/Student Participation in Community Events:

Committee Chairperson Phair advised of many community events taking place in the near future that District staff and students can participate in.

NEOLA Policy 9700 Relations with Non-School Affiliated Groups

NEOLA Policy 9800 High School Diploma to Veterans and NEOLA Policy 9800.01 Veterans as Classroom Volunteers:

Mr. Saari advised that these two policies are per state statutes that pertain specifically to veterans.

A motion was made by Mark Polebitski and seconded by Steve Klismet to move the following NEOLA Policies, all as presented, to the full Board for approval and adoption: NEOLA Policy 9120 Public Information Program; NEOLA Policy 9151 Use of Cameras and Other Recording Devices in Locker Rooms; NEOLA Policy 9160 Public Attendance at School Events; NEOLA Policy 9190 Charges for Career and Technical Education Projects; NEOLA Policy 9210 Parent Organizations; NEOLA Policy 9211 District-Support Organizations; NEOLA Policy 9250 Relations with Parents; NEOLA Policy 9500 Relations with Educational Institutions and Organizations; NEOLA Policy 9555 Partnerships with Business; NEOLA Policy 9600 Staff/Student Participation in Community Events; NEOLA Policy 9700 Relations with Non-School Affiliated Groups; NEOLA Policy 9800 High School Diploma to Veterans; and NEOLA Policy 9800.01 Veterans as Classroom Volunteers. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Board Policies for Review (Sections 7000 and 8000) – Waupaca Policies (with little to no changes):

- NEOLA Policy 8220.01 Emergency School Closings (W723.3)
- NEOLA Policy 8600 Student Transportation Services (W751 through W752)
- NEOLA Policy 8600.02 Bus Routes and Schedules (W751.1)
- NEOLA Policy 8600.03 General Procedures Intended for Transporting Early Childhood and W4K Students (W751.2)
- NEOLA Policy 8600.04 Extra-Curricular Transportation (W751.3)

NEOLA Policy 8660 Transportation by Private Vehicle (W751.4):

Mr. Saari advised that this policy allows for options in the case of an emergency or when there isn't a bus/bus driver available.

- NEOLA Policy 8600.05 Transportation of Nonpublic School Students Policy Statement (W751.6)
- NEOLA Policy 7530.01 Cell Phone Allowance (W772.1)
- NEOLA Policy 7530.05 Cell Phone Policy for Administrators/Supervisors (W772.2)
- NEOLA Policy 7510 Use of Facilities – Philosophy/Application (W830.1)
- NEOLA Policy 7510.01 Use of District Facilities (W830/W830.1/W830.2/W830.3)
- NEOLA Policy 7230 Public Gifts to the Schools (W840)
- NEOLA Policy 2700.05 Charter Schools (W896)

NEOLA Policy _____ Speed Limits on School Roads and Property (W833.2), NEOLA Policy _____ Bulletin Boards and the Posting of Material (W852.1), and NEOLA Policy _____ Circulating Petitions (W852.2):

Mr. Saari advised that NEOLA doesn't have anything regarding these three Waupaca policies, so it is up to the Committee/Board if it still wants to keep them. Committee member Mark Polebitski felt that they are antiquated and suggested that they be removed. Much discussion then ensued, with some Board members agreeing that perhaps the policy relating to speed limits could be removed because that is set by state law. However, several Board members felt that the policies pertaining to bulletin boards and circulating petitions should remain. After further discussion, the Committee tabled these three policies for further consideration and discussion at a later date.

A motion was made by Mark Polebitski and seconded by Steve Klismet to move the following NEOLA policies, all as presented, to the full Board for approval and adoption: NEOLA Policy 8220.01 Emergency School Closings (W723.3); NEOLA Policy 8600 Student Transportation Services (W751 through W752); NEOLA Policy 8600.02 Bus Routes and Schedules (W751.1); NEOLA Policy 8600.03 General Procedures Intended for Transporting Early Childhood and W4K Students (W751.2); NEOLA Policy 8600.04 Extra-Curricular Transportation (W751.3); NEOLA Policy 8660 Transportation by Private Vehicle (W751.4); NEOLA Policy 8600.05 Transportation of Nonpublic School Students Policy Statement (W751.6); NEOLA Policy 7530.01 Cell Phone Allowance (W772.1); NEOLA Policy 7530.05 Cell Phone Policy for Administrators/Supervisors (W772.2); NEOLA Policy 7510 Use of Facilities – Philosophy/Application (W830.1); NEOLA Policy 7510.01 Use of District Facilities (W830/W830.1/W830.2/W830.3); NEOLA Policy 7230 Public Gifts to the Schools (W840); and NEOLA Policy 2700.05 Charter Schools (W896). The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Due to time constraints, the remainder of the Agenda (Sections VIII.B. and C.) will be brought forth at the next Policy Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, 2022.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mark Polebitski and seconded by Steve Klismet to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.