

MINUTES

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ms. Sue Cohen, Mr. Tom Hurley and Ms. Sheila McCreven.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ms. Diane Urbano.

**Board members present:** Mr. Bill Blake (departed 7:50 pm), Mr. Christopher Browe (arrived 6:40 pm) Ms. Pat Cardozo, Mr. Steve DeMaio (departed 8:15 pm), Ms. Amy Esposito and Mr. Jamie Stirling.

**Staff members present:** Dr. Charles Dumais

A meeting of the Policy Committee of the Amity Regional Board of Education (BOE) was held on November 21, 2016 at 5:30 pm in the Presentation Room at the District Offices.

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Hurley called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. **Approval of minutes – October 24, 2016**

***Motion by Ms. McCreven, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Cohen to approve the minutes as submitted.***

Ms. McCreven noted a correction for the vote on item #4; she voted no making the vote unanimous.

*Minutes corrected and re-submitted*

**Vote unanimous to accept the minutes as amended.**

**Motion carried**

3. **Public Comment - None**

Ms. McCreven asked whether or not policy 5142.4 should be added to the agenda for this meeting; Mr. Hurley stated that this would be addressed under item #4 since this policy is in regards to the school resource officer memorandum of understanding.

4. **Discussion and possible action on Woodbridge School Resource Officer (SRO) memorandum of understanding (MOU).**

Dr. Dumais shared the updated MOU language that was changed/added at the direction of the Committee, III, two underlined sections (attachment). He reported that feedback from the Woodbridge Police Department regarding these changes was positive. The Committee discussed other possible language as presented to them in samples from CABA and other towns in Connecticut. The Policy Committee took this up because there is currently no policy regarding the MOU and CABA policy and guidance states that a policy should be in place because of a change in State law in July 2015. The MOU with the changes is a dramatic improvement from the previous one. A lengthy discussion was held regarding what is required by State statute versus what the policy should state. Further changes in language were discussed.

***Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Blake to change the language on page 1, III PD and SRO Responsibilities, first paragraph to read "The PD shall supply...The Superintendent will establish a chain of command in charge of security and will be..." and page 2 under III PD and SRO Responsibilities, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph to read "The Superintendent or his designee will set annual goals with the SRO."***

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

***Motion by Ms. McCreven to add a paragraph to the MOU for "Term" that specifies that either side can ask for the agreement to be opened up.***

After lengthy discussion, Ms. McCreven withdrew her motion as this was covered already in the MOU.

**Policy 5142.4** was tabled at the October meeting and is therefore on the agenda for this meeting.

***Motion by Ms. McCreven that policy 5142.4 be added to the Policy Committee meeting agenda for the December 2016 meeting and that all members be notified and sent a copy of the policy prior to the meeting.***

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

***Motion by Ms. McCreven that policy 5131.11 be added to the Policy Committee meeting agenda for January 2017 meeting and that all members be notified and sent a copy of the policy along with legal/State statute references.***

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

**5. Discussion and possible action on Amity Board of Education policies, 9000 series (attachments 1 and 2)**

Mr. Hurley requested a motion to move 26 policies in the 9000 series by consent as listed, 9110-9400 to the BOE agenda for the December 2016 meeting.

***Motion by Ms. Cohen to move the listed policies in the 9000 series by consent as listed to the December 2016 BOE meeting.***

Discussion followed regarding these policies.

**Policy 9110** - change in language to "vacancies shall be filled...or State statute as appropriate."

**Policy 9322** – typographical error, change "personal" to "personnel" (IB)

**Vote unanimous to accept these changes**

**Policy 9132.6** – Mr. Hurley opened this policy for discussion (attachment 3)

Mr. DeMaio spoke in favor of adding members to the Finance Committee in a weighted fashion to total 2 more from Orange, 1 more from Woodbridge and Bethany to stay the same in order to balance the Committee in terms of how much they pay into the regional budget. Mr. Stirling stated that since each town pays exactly the same amount for each student, the current representation on the Committee is equal. There was no motion to change the policy.

Mr. Stirling addressed the changes (attachment 4) he suggested and were provided in advance to the Committee members with changes struck over and new text underlined.

***Motion by McCreven not to make any of these changes in Policy 9132.6b as outlined.***

**Vote Ms. McCreven in favor, Ms. Cohen and Mr. Blake against**

**Motion defeated**

***Motion by Mr. Blake to accept the language from Mr. Stirling in Policy 9132.6b regarding calling of emergency meetings.***

**Vote Mr. Blake and Ms. Cohen in favor, Ms. McCreven against**

**Motion carried**

***Motion by Mr. Blake to accept the second change in Policy 9132.6b as written with the typographical error correction.***

**Vote Mr. Blake and Ms. Cohen in favor, Ms. McCreven against**

**Motion carried**

***Motion by Ms. Cohen to accept the third change in Policy 9132.6b as noted.***

**Vote Mr. Blake and Ms. Cohen in favor, Ms. McCreven against**

**Motion carried**

***Motion by Mr. Blake to accept the change in Policy 9132.6b regarding newspaper notification.***

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding this change, i.e., whether or not a notice in the newspaper was necessary.

**Vote Mr. Blake in favor, Ms. McCreven against, Ms. Cohen abstained**

**Motion defeated**

Ms. Cohen recalled the question

**Vote Mr. Blake and Ms. Cohen in favor, Ms. McCreven against**

**Motion carried**

Committee members then discussed changes to Policy 9132.6 that had been submitted in writing by Ms. Russo (attachment 5).

***Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Blake to send Policy 9132.6 to the BOE for a first reading on the December agenda.***

**Vote Mr. Blake and Ms. Cohen in favor, Ms. McCreven against**

**Motion carried**

***Motion by Ms. McCreven to approve policy 9000 – BOE powers***

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

***Motion by Ms. McCreven to reject policy 9005 – Integrity of BOE members***

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

**Policy 9010 – Limits of Authority**

There was lengthy discussion about this policy. Some of the same information is in Policy 9271 but it does not include limits of authority or Committee of the Whole.

***Motion by Ms. McCreven to reject this policy.***

There was further discussion regarding this policy.

***Motion by Ms. Cohen to move Policy 9010 to the full Board meeting in December.***

There was further discussion.

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

**Policy 9011 – Accountability**

***Motion by Ms. McCreven to accept one paragraph of this policy and to table this to June 2017.***

After further discussion the motion was withdrawn.

It was agreed that Policy 9011 would be put back on the list and that the Committee would return to discuss this policy at a later date.

**Policy 9012 – Legal Responsibilities of a Board of Education**

This policy is not recommended by the Superintendent.

**Policy 9020 – Public Statements**

*Motion by Ms. McCreven to use the language recommended by the Superintendent with changes as noted.*

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

**Policy 9020.1** – no action taken.

**Policy 9030 and 9030.1** – not recommended.

**Policy 9040 – Duties of the Board** – The Westport version was discussed with possible changes for a regional district versus a single town. Not recommended.

**Policy 9100** – not recommended

**Policy 9120 – Officers**

*Motion by Ms. McCreven to accept Policy 9120 with the changes.*

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

**Policy 9121 – Office of the Chairperson**

*Motion by Ms. McCreven to adopt Policy 9121 as it exists with the addition of a legal reference to State statute 10-218.*

The Committee discussed the current policy and the changes, including those in Policy Committee member Ms. Urbano’s email.

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

**Policy 9122 – Office of the Vice-Chairperson**

*Motion by Ms. McCreven to keep the existing policy with added language allowing the vice-chairperson to sign legal documents if the secretary is incapacitated or out of State.*

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

Dr. Dumais summarized what is being moved forward to the full Board at the December meeting, as follows: Policies 9110, 9123, 9124, 9127, 9132.2, 9132.3, 9132.41, 9132.5, 9212, 9240, 9250, 9271, 9272, 9311, 9312, 9313, 9314, 9321, 9322, 9325.3, 9330, 9340, 9360, 9400.

The Committee will begin with Policy 9125 at the next meeting on December 19, 2016.

**6. Adjournment**

*Motion by Ms. McCreven to adjourn at 9:05 p.m.*

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth E. Natzel, Recording Clerk

*Attachments:*

1. *Memorandum of Understanding between Amity Region 5 and Woodbridge Police Department*
2. *Email from Ms. McCreven, November 21, 2016*
3. *Email from Ms. Urbano, November 21, 2016*
4. *Email from Mr. DeMaio, November 19, 2016*
5. *Bylaws of the Board 9132.6, changes per Mr. Stirling*
6. *Bylaws of the Board 9132.6, changes and questions per Ms. Russo*