

## POLICY/COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE PUBLIC MINUTES

March 1, 2021 Virtual Meeting - 4:00 p.m.

Committee Members: Beth Fiore, Chair,

Camille Cerciello (alt.), Anthony Emmons

Administrative Staff: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent of Schools

Jason Bohm, SBA/Board Secretary

## Agenda

1. Dr. Hart gave summaries of the following recommendations in Policy Alert 222 by Strauss Esmay. The committee recommended the following policies/bylaw changes for first reading to the BOE.

## a. Bylaw 0145 - Board member Resignation and Removal

Bylaw Guide 0145 addresses when a Board member must resign, must be removed, or may be removed from the Board in accordance with New Jersey statute N.J.S.A. 18A:12-3.

- b. **Bylaw 0164.6 Remote Public Board Meetings During a Declared Emergency**Strauss Esmay developed a new Bylaw 0164.6 to be in compliance with the new administrative code and the LFN 2020-2 addressing protocols for public comment for remote meetings during this Governor-declared emergency.
- c. **Policy and Regulation 5330.01 Administration of Medical Cannabis**The primary revision was a change in terminology from "marijuana" to "cannabis" and several additions of definitions. **There were no changes to the required procedure** outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22.
- d. Policy and Regulation 7425 Lead Testing of Water in Schools

Policy Guide 7425 has been revised to reflect the recent changes in N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4 which requires school districts to test for lead in the water outlets in school facilities. The committee recommends continuing to test for lead annually at the start of the summer to allow time for notification of results and remediation and would consider reducing the frequency of testing to the state requirement of every third year if/when filtered water bottle refill stations are installed.

- 2. Policy Alert 222 by Strauss Esmay Abolish
  - a. **Policy and Regulation 7430 School Safety** The committee did not recommend this policy for abolishment. It is a pretty broad policy and would not be harmful to leave as is.
- 3. **Redistricting Communication Plan** Dr. Hart presented the plan to notify parents, staff, and the community about redistricting which includes: Board of Education meetings, Superintendent Coffee Chats, Informal Community Forums, Letters/Superintendent Sentinel, HSA Meetings, Newspaper articles, Administrative Meetings, Faculty meetings.
- 4. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)** Ed/Tech Committee is currently working on DEI initiatives related to curriculum. Dr. Hart referenced our current board policies related to DEI and is collecting sample policies to share with the committee.

- **5.** Contact with Township Committee Regarding Communications As suggested in the Jan Policy/Communications Committee meeting, Dr. Hart has reached out to the Township about the possibility of sending pertinent school information through township communications.
- 6. Press Releases Tentative Topics:
  - a. April (due March 15): Possible: Spring Athletics/Sports (Dr. Moss and Coordinators)
  - b. May (due April 15): Possible: Launch of New Website (Dr. Hart and Jim Belske) Additional topics suggested include: redistricting, thanks/gratitude to community/everyone who helped during this difficult year to support students and the schools.
- 7. Next Meeting: April 12 at 4pm