

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 17, 2015**

ATTENDANCE: Heidi Keyes, Chair; Sherelle Harris, Shirley Mosby,
Artie Kassimis (6:50 p.m.)

STAFF: Brenda Williams, Director of Communications

OTHER BOE Non-Committee Member: Mike Barbis; Joe Giandurco, NFT

Call to Order

Ms. Keyes called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and stated that Committee members were in attendance as listed above, and a quorum was present.

Discussion: Policy 9320 Meeting Start Time

There was a general discussion to amended Policy 9320 to change the start of meeting time to 7:00 p.m. Ms. Mosby asked to get the word out to the public with notices on the website, in school newsletters and parent notification.

Ms. Keyes noted that with approval at the next meeting on April 7, this change would take affect with the April 21 meeting.

**** MS. HARRIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDED POLICY 9320 WITH THE START TIME OF MEETINGS TO BE 7:00 P.M. AND BRING TO THE NEXT FULL BOARD MEETING FOR APPROVAL.**

**** MS. KEYES SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Kassimis entered the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Discussion: Policy 9325 Meeting Conduct

There was a general discussion on the amended Policy 9325 and language added following last meeting. It as agreed by consensus to further amend item 5 to delete the end of the last sentence after 'others' and add 'may be liable.'

Ms. Keyes noted that the next steps are as follows: Present to the full Board for discussion on April 7; with approval at the subsequent meeting on April 21, this change would take affect with the May 6 meeting.

- ** MS. HARRIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDED POLICY 9325 MEETING CONDUCT AND BRING TO THE NEXT FULL BOARD MEETING FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION.**
- ** MS. KEYES SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Discussion: Recess Guidelines

Ms. Keyes reported that the committee is meeting next week, and with their feedback, the areas of recommended change should be brought back to the committee for a draft policy. She noted that there are state guidelines on recess and a policy across the district would help encourage common practices with it comes to recess.

Ms. Williams noted that she will have the committee report of their findings along with input from the School PTO's and Governance Councils, then to the Policy Committee with their recommendations.

Ms. Keyes suggested that after further review by the Policy Committee recommended changes should then be brought to the full Board for discussion.

April Agenda:

Ms. Keyes noted that Ralph Valenzisi was unable to attend last month and suggested that the information technology policy items be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Information Technology Policies Development of "Bring Your Own Device" Policy (New)
Updates to Telecommunications/Internet – Acceptable Use (6141.321), Computers:
Websites/Pages (6141.322) Internet Acceptable Use: Filtering (6141.323) Electronic Resources.

Other

Ms. Mosby asked for a review of the policy on out-of-district placement of students at the Regional Center for the Performing Arts. She noted that there should be consistent direction and an available option for both high schools for students to go to RCA for specialized classes in performing arts.

Mr. Barbis noted that with uniform scheduling for high school reform, the schools will be transitioning to block scheduling next year. He added that the RCA option may become more available for students based on credit requirements and uniform scheduling.

It was also noted that results from the Facilities Utilization Study may also affect scheduling options and class size limits

Ms. Mosby asked for the committee to revisit bullying - both student and adult bullying and enforcement guidelines.

There was discussion on the start time for the Policy Committee meetings. Ms. Keyes suggested that once Board meetings are at 7:00 that the committee could still meet one-hour prior. There was discussion on starting at 5 or 5:30 but members noted that it was too early.

Ms. Mosby noted that it appears to be difficult for the current time of 6:30 p.m. to be met. She explained that if they cannot make 6:30 p.m. and are consistently late, she is concerned that 6:00 won't start on time and that would cut into the one hour. She added that her concern is that important policy issues won't be given adequate time for deliberation and input. Ms. Keyes acknowledged this concern and will monitor the time attendance. It was agreed to schedule the committee meetings at 6pm prior to the full Board meetings.

It was agreed that special meetings would be scheduled if there is not enough time to progress through the amended policy revisions.

Adjournment

**** MR. KASIMIS MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Knox,
Telesco Secretarial Services