

The Board of Education Town of Vernon

30 Park Street – PO Box 600
Vernon, Connecticut 06066

Anne Fischer, Chairperson
Mark Kalina, Vice Chairperson
Stephen Linton, Secretary
Patricia Buxton, Treasurer
Jennifer Buckler
Kevin Brown
Deborah Rodriguez
Mason Thrall
Kristiana Wintress

October 6, 2021

DRAFT MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

A Policy Committee meeting of the Vernon Board of Education was held on Wednesday, October 6, 2021.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Fischer at 6:15 PM. Present when the meeting was called to order were Mrs. Fischer, Dr. Buxton, Mrs. Rodriguez, Ms. Wintress and Dr. Macary.

Dr. Buxton was assigned the following policies to review:

3516.3 Accident Prevention and Reporting – Minor revisions were suggested. Mrs. Rodriguez made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3516.5 Sexual Offenders on School Property – Dr. Buxton suggested some revisions to this policy. Ms. Wintress made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Mrs. Fischer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3517 Security for School System Facilities and Property – There were no changes suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

3524 Hazardous Materials in Schools – There were no changes suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

3524.1 Hazardous Materials in Schools/Pesticide Application – Dr. Buxton suggested several revisions to our policy. Because CABA's sample policy is more detailed, the committee agreed that much of CABA's language should be incorporated into our current policy. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Mrs. Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mrs. Rodriguez was assigned the following policies to review:

3532 Liability Automobile Property Insurance – There were no changes suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

The Board of Education Town of Vernon

30 Park Street – PO Box 600
Vernon, Connecticut 06066

Anne Fischer, Chairperson
Mark Kalina, Vice Chairperson
Stephen Linton, Secretary
Patricia Buxton, Treasurer
Jennifer Buckler
Kevin Brown
Deborah Rodriguez
Mason Thrall
Kristiana Wintress

October 6, 2021

3534 Employee/Officer Bonds – The language in this policy is appropriate and the committee felt no changes were necessary. However, the \$100,000 amount is in question. Is it enough? Dr. Macary will contact CIRMA to ascertain if that amount needs to be increased. He will let us know CIRMA’s answer at our next policy meeting.

We then entered into the 4000 section about school transportation. Vernon has seventeen policies on transportation and the committee is suggesting many changes. However, most of the changes are in regards to renumbering the policies and putting them in better order.

3541 General Information on Transportation of Students – There were no changes suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

3541.1 Parent Responsibility – The language in this policy is appropriate; therefore, no language changes are recommended for this policy. The only suggested change is to renumber this policy to #3541.10. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revision as discussed. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.11 Pupil Responsibility – It was suggested that the language from CABA’s #3541.3 pertaining to student eligibility be added to this policy. Thus, putting all information about students and their transportation in one policy. By doing this, the policy would need to be renamed to Pupil Responsibility and Eligibility. The number of this policy does not need to be changed. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Dr. Buxton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Wintress was assigned the following policies to review:

3541.2 Board of Education Responsibility – Minor revisions were suggested for this policy. Also, changing the policy number to #3541.12 will keep it in line with the other “Responsibility” policies. Dr. Buxton made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Mrs. Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.3 Superintendent Responsibility - Minor revisions were suggested for this policy. Also, changing the policy number to #3541.13 will keep it in line with the other “Responsibility” policies. Mrs.

The Board of Education Town of Vernon

30 Park Street – PO Box 600
Vernon, Connecticut 06066

Anne Fischer, Chairperson
Mark Kalina, Vice Chairperson
Stephen Linton, Secretary
Patricia Buxton, Treasurer
Jennifer Buckler
Kevin Brown
Deborah Rodriguez
Mason Thrall
Kristiana Wintress

October 6, 2021

Rodriguez made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.31 Administrator Responsibility – The language in this policy is appropriate; therefore, no language changes are recommended for this policy. The only suggested change is to renumber this policy to #3541.14 to keep it in line with the other “Responsibility” policies.

Mrs. Rodriguez made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.4 Public Notification of Bus Routes – It was suggested that CAFE’s policy #3541.43 be merged with our #3541.4 and that we change our policy number to #3541.43 to mirror CAFE’s numbering system. Dr. Buxton made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Mrs. Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.41 Appeals – It was suggested that our #3541.41 be merged with the Appeals language in CAFE’s #3541.3. It was also recommended that the number of this policy be changed to #3541.431. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Dr. Buxton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mrs. Fischer was assigned the following policies to review:

3541.42 Safety Records and Reports – Mrs. Fischer suggested that language from CAFE’s #3541.5 be merged with language in our policy and that this policy be renumbered to #3541.5 to mirror CAFE’s numbering system. Mrs. Rodriguez made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.43 Bus Pass – It was suggested that this policy be deleted. Dr. Buxton made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the deletion of this policy. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.5 Definitions – Definitions from CAFE’s #3541.3 were added to our policy and it was recommended that we change the policy number to #3541.3 to mirror CAFE’s numbering system. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revision as discussed. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Board of Education

Town of Vernon

30 Park Street – PO Box 600
Vernon, Connecticut 06066

Anne Fischer, Chairperson
Mark Kalina, Vice Chairperson
Stephen Linton, Secretary
Patricia Buxton, Treasurer
Jennifer Buckler
Kevin Brown
Deborah Rodriguez
Mason Thrall
Kristiana Wintress

October 6, 2021

3541.6 Hazardous Conditions - Language was added from CABE's #3541.3 but no number change is necessary. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Mrs. Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.7 Transportation to Child Care Facilities – Minor revisions were suggested for this policy and a number change is not necessary. Dr. Buxton made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.8 Bus Service and Bus Drivers – It was suggested that language from CABE's #3541.22 be merged with our #3541.8. By merging these policies this policy would now need a new title and a new number. The new title would be Bus Driver Qualifications and Responsibilities and the new number would be #3541.15 to align with the other "Responsibility" policies. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as discussed. Mrs. Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.9 Maintaining a Safe Environment on School System Vehicles/Inappropriate Behavior and Consequences – It was suggested that we add language from our #3541.92 and #3541.93 to this #3541.9 and revise the title of this policy to Inappropriate Behavior and Consequences. In addition, it was recommended to change the policy number to #3541.8. There were some questions about the legality of this policy so Dr. Macary will confer with our attorney Chris Chinni and let the committee know the results at our next committee meeting.

3541.92 Hearing for Suspension from School System Transportation - It was suggested that this policy be deleted since the language from this policy was added to our newly numbered #3541.8 Dr. Buxton made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the deletion of this policy. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.93 Consequences for Bus Vandalism - It was suggested that this policy be deleted since the language from this policy was added to our newly numbered #3541.8 Dr. Buxton made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the deletion of this policy. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3541.23 Bus Contractor (NEW) – Mrs. Fischer asked the committee to review this CABE policy (Vernon does not have this policy currently). Dr. Macary will check with our lawyer, Fred Dorsey, and share his thoughts on this policy at our next committee meeting.

The Board of Education Town of Vernon

30 Park Street – PO Box 600
Vernon, Connecticut 06066

Anne Fischer, Chairperson
Mark Kalina, Vice Chairperson
Stephen Linton, Secretary
Patricia Buxton, Treasurer
Jennifer Buckler
Kevin Brown
Deborah Rodriguez
Mason Thrall
Kristiana Wintress

October 6, 2021

Since there are many recommended revisions to all of our Transportation policies, below is a list of exactly how these policies would be listed in our “manual” on the district website provided all of these revisions are approved by the Board of Education.

3541	Transportation
3541.10	Parent Responsibility
3541.11	Pupil Responsibility and Eligibility
3541.12	Board of Education Responsibility
3541.13	Superintendent Responsibility
3541.14	Administrator Responsibility
3541.15	Bus Driver Qualifications and Responsibility
3541.23	Bus Contractor
3541.3	Definitions
3541.43	Public Notification of Bus Routes
3541.431	Appeals
3541.5	Safety Records and Reports
3541.6	Hazardous Conditions
3541.7	Transportation to Child Care Facilities
3541.8	Inappropriate Behavior and Consequences

The following policies were brought to the committee’s attention by Dr. Macary for discussion:

0200	Goals – Language on Social Emotional Learning will have to be added
1110.1	Parent/Guardian Participation (Community Relations) – Vernon needs to add language about remote learning
3542.43	Food Service /Charging Policy – Vernon does not have this policy but the committee will look at this policy when reviewing Food Service policies
4118.11	Non-Discrimination/Equal Employment Opportunity – Language will have to be added with race definitions as well as protective hairstyles
5113	Attendance, Absences, Tardiness, Early Dismissal and Dismissal Precautions – Language about Mental Health days need to be added
5113.2	Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism – Mental Health information needs to be added
5131.911	Bullying Behavior/Cyberbullying/Hazing – Safe School Climate Committee

The Board of Education Town of Vernon

30 Park Street – PO Box 600
Vernon, Connecticut 06066

Anne Fischer, Chairperson
Mark Kalina, Vice Chairperson
Stephen Linton, Secretary
Patricia Buxton, Treasurer
Jennifer Buckler
Kevin Brown
Deborah Rodriguez
Mason Thrall
Kristiana Wintress

October 6, 2021

- 6146.11 language need to be added to our policy
Instruction/Grade Weighting/Class Rank – Vernon does not have this policy
and before we institute this policy the Board needs to decide if they believe in
weighted grades
- 6159 Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program – Language
about Birth to Three Coordinator needs to be added to our policy

Dr. Macary will insert the appropriate language into these policies and bring them back to the committee for discussion and possible approval.

The following policies have been assigned to committee members to review at the next policy committee meeting:

Dr. Buxton #3542; #3542.1; #3542.2; 3542.22; #3542.31

Mrs. Rodriguez #3542.4; #3542.41; #4000; #4111; #4111.1

Ms. Wintress #4112; #4112.4/4212.4; #4112.5/4212.5' #4112.51/4212.51;
#4112.6/4212.6

Mrs. Fischer #4112.61/4212.61; #4112.8/4212.8; #4114/4214; #4115; #4117/4217

The next Policy Committee meeting will be scheduled via e-mail.

Mrs. Rodriguez made the motion to adjourn at 8:56 PM. Dr. Buxton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Linton, Board Secretary