

The Board of Education Town of Vernon

30 Park Street – PO Box 600
Vernon, Connecticut 06066

Anne Fischer, Chairperson
Mason Thrall, Vice Chairperson
Patricia Buxton, Secretary
Karen Colt
Paul Grabowski
Mark Kalina
Stephen Linton
Deborah Rodriguez
Kristiana Wintress

March 1, 2023

APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

A Policy Committee meeting of the Vernon Board of Education was held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Buxton at 6:00 PM. Present when the meeting was called to order were Dr. Buxton, Mrs. Fischer, Mr. Linton, Ms. Wintress, and Mr. Testa.

Public Forum – There was no public comment.

Dr. Buxton was assigned the following policies to review:

5141.22 Communicable and Infectious Diseases - No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

5141.25 Students with Special Health Care Needs - Dr. Buxton suggested changes in the policy that align with the language in CABE's policy. Ms. Wintress made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as suggested. Mr. Linton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously

5141.27 Use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) - Dr. Buxton suggested that this policy be deleted since CABE does not have it. Since some questioned that choice it was suggested that this policy be run by our Nurse Supervisor. If she thinks it is a policy that we should have we will keep it. If she makes some modifications to the policy, it will be brought back to the committee for approval of those revisions. Mr. Linton made the motion that if Mrs. Stickel recommends keeping this policy with no changes it will be marked as reviewed. Mrs. Fischer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5141.28 Sudden Cardiac Arrest – Dr. Buxton suggested that this policy be deleted since CABE does not have it. Since some questioned that choice it was suggested that this policy be run by our Nurse Supervisor. If she thinks it is a policy that we should have we will keep it. If she makes some modifications to the policy, it will be brought back to the committee for approval of those revisions. Mrs. Fischer made the motion that if Mrs. Stickel recommends keeping this policy with no changes it will be marked as reviewed. Mr. Linton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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5141.3 Health Assessments and Immunizations – Dr. Buxton made changes to this policy based on CABA's sample policy. It was suggested that this policy and the potential changes be reviewed by our Nurse Supervisor. This policy will be brought back to the committee once Mrs. Stickel gives her input.

Dr. Buxton shared with the committee that CABA has two additional policies that she believes we do not have and maybe they should be reviewed to determine if they should be added. The policies are:

#5141.24 Students/Staff with HIV or Aids

#5141.234/4118.234 Psychotropic Drug Use

We do not have a policy on HIV/Aids so we will review CABA's policy at our next policy committee meeting.

As for Psychotropic Drug Use, we do have that policy which is listed as policy # 4118.234/5141.231. We recently revised that policy in 2022 so there is no need to review it at this time. We do need to change the numbering of one of our current policies to align with CABA's numbering system. Therefore,

Vernon's Policy #4118.234 needs to be changed to Policy # 4118.231

In addition, we need to add to our 5000 section of policies, policy #5141.231 which will be a duplicate of our 4118.234 (soon to be re-numbered 4118.231)

Mrs. Fischer was assigned the following policies to review:

5141.5 Suicide Prevention – Revisions were suggested for this policy based on language recommended by CABA. Dr. Buxton made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as suggested. Mr. Linton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5141.6 Crisis Response – Revisions were suggested for this policy based on language recommended by CABA. Ms. Wintress made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as suggested. Dr. Buxton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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5141.7 Concussion – Mrs. Fischer suggested revisions to this policy based on language in CABE’s sample policy. Mr. Farrell (Athletic Director) and Mrs. Stickel (Nurse Supervisor) will be asked to review the suggested changes and the policy in general. If the changes are acceptable to them, the committee is in favor of moving forward with this. Mr. Linton made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval, the changes as presented, provided Mr. Farrell and Mrs. Stickel are in agreement. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. If Mr. Farrell and Mrs. Stickel have additional suggested revisions, this policy will be brought back to the committee.

5142.1 Interaction with Non-Custodial Parents - Minor revisions were suggested for this policy. Mr. Linton made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions suggested. Dr. Buxton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5144.1 Use of Physical Force - Mrs. Fischer suggested revisions to this policy based on language in CABE’s sample policy. Mr. Nagashima (Director of Pupil Services) will be asked to review the suggested changes and the policy in general. If the changes are acceptable to him, the committee is in favor of moving forward with this. Mr. Linton made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval, the changes as presented, provided Mr. Nagashima is in agreement. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. If Mr. Nagashima has additional suggested revisions to this policy, it will be brought back to the committee.

Mr. Linton was assigned the following policies to review:

5144.3 Discipline of Students with Disabilities – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

5145 Students Legal Rights and Responsibilities – Mr. Linton suggested that we adopt CABE’s language into our policy. Ms. Wintress made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as suggested. Dr. Buxton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5145.11 Police in Schools – Revisions were recommended for this policy. Ms. Wintress made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as suggested. Dr. Buxton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5145.12 Search and Seizure – Mr. Linton suggested that CABE’s policy be used for this policy, but it was determined that we should have our attorney look at our current policy and compare it to

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CABE's language. His input will be shared with the committee at the next policy meeting and guide the committee's decision.

5145.122 Use of Trained Dogs - Mr. Linton suggested that CABE's policy be used for this policy, but it was determined that we should have our attorney look at our current policy and compare it to CABE's language. His input will be shared with the committee at the next policy meeting and guide the committee's decision.

5145.12 Breathalyzer – Mr. Linton suggested deleting this policy since CABE does not have it. Mr. Testa thought it would be wise to talk to the Rockville High Principal, Jason Magao and the School Resource Officer before making a final determination. CABE will be asked why they do not have a policy like this. Some members of the committee were concerned about liability.

Ms. Wintress was assigned the following policies to review:

5145.14 On Campus Recruitment – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

5145.15 Directory Information – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

5145.2 Freedom of Speech/Expression- No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

5145.4 Non-Discrimination – Ms. Wintress suggested that one word be deleted. Mr. Linton made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval the revision as suggested. Dr. Buxton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5145.6 Student Grievance - No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

Dr. Buxton left the meeting at 7:23 PM.

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Dr. Macary brought these policies to the committee:

5118.1 Homeless Students – This policy had been referred to the attorney. The committee agreed with the recommended revisions from Mr. Dorsey. In addition, Mrs. Zingler (Director of Family, School and Community Partnerships), requested that an additional paragraph be added at the beginning of the policy. The committee agreed. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as proposed. Mr. Linton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5132 Dress and Grooming – Minor revisions was suggested. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval this change as proposed. Mr. Linton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

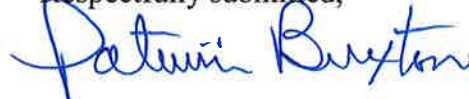
5141 Student Health Services – Our Nurse Supervisor reviewed this policy and made some suggestions for revisions. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the changes as proposed. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5145.511 Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program – Dr. Macary had asked Mr. Dorsey to review and revise this policy. It was the consensus of the committee to accept Mr. Dorsey's suggestions. Ms. Wintress made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the changes as proposed. Mrs. Fischer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the policy committee will be scheduled as soon as Dr. Buxton can coordinate available dates with Dr. Macary. In addition, Dr. Buxton will send the committee members their policy assignments a few weeks before the scheduled meeting.

Mr. Linton made the motion to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Buxton, Board Secretary