

# 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

May 1, 2023

## APPROVED MINUTES

### BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

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

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Buxton at 6:02 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:**

**5156 Research Involving Students** – Revisions were suggested for this policy. In addition, Dr. Buxton suggested that the Board/Administration adopt the procedures/regulations recommended by CABE for those interested in conducting research involving our students. Ms. Wintress made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions to the policy as suggested as well as the adoption of the **Procedures for Application and Acceptance of Research Involving our Students**. Mr. Linton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**5157 Non-Discrimination** - Dr. Buxton suggested that we delete this policy since policy #6121 (Non-Discrimination in the Instructional Program) covers the necessary language. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the deletion of this policy. Mr. Linton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**6000 Priority of Instructional Program** - No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

**6010 Goals and Objectives** – Dr. Buxton suggested that we replace our current policy, which is quite outdated, with CABE's sample policy. The committee thought that this would be appropriate since CABE's language aligns well with our Vision of the Graduate. Mrs. Fischer made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval these revisions as suggested. Mr. Linton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**6111 School Calendar** – Dr. Buxton made changes to this policy based on CABE's sample policy. The Superintendent's Secretary will be asked to correct the formatting in these revisions. Mrs.

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

## **Mrs. Fischer was assigned the following policies to review:**

**6112 School Day** – Mrs. Fischer suggested changes to this policy based on language recommended by CAFE. 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.

**6112.1 Opening Exercises, Observations, Ceremonies, Programs** – Mrs. Fischer suggested that we delete this policy since our policy #6115 (Separation of Church and State) contains most of the same language. It was suggested that some language from this policy be added to our policy #6115. Ms. Wintress made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval the deletion of this policy as well as the addition of some of this policy's language to policy #6115 as suggested. Dr. Buxton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**6113 Class Size** – Revisions were recommended 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.

**6114 Emergency and Disaster Preparedness** - Minor revisions were suggested for this policy. Dr. Buxton made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions suggested. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**6114.3 Bomb and Toxic Substance Threats** - Mrs. Fischer suggested minor revisions to this policy. Ms. Wintress made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval the suggested revisions. Dr. Buxton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **Mr. Linton was assigned the following policies to review:**

**6115 Separation of Church and State** – Revisions were suggested for this policy as outlined in above Policy #6112.1. Mrs. Fischer 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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**6121 Non-Discrimination in the Instructional Program** – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

**6141 Curriculum Design and Development** – One sentence was added to this policy. Ms. Wintress 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.

**6141.1 Challenged Instructional Materials** – Mr. Linton suggested revisions to this policy. Ms. Wintress made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as suggested. Mrs. Fischer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**6141.3 Acceptable Use of Technology** – Revisions were suggested for this policy. Dr. Buxton made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions as suggested. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Ms. Wintress was assigned the following policies to review:**

**6141.312 Migrant Students** – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

**6141.326 Internet - Computer Networks Use** – Minor revisions were suggested for this policy. Mrs. Fischer 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.

**6141.4328 Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) and Protocol for the Use of Technology in the Schools** – Ms. Wintress suggested the deletion of some language in this policy. Mrs. Fischer 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.

**6141.8 School Readiness** – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

**6142 Basic Instructional Program** - No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

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**Dr. Macary and Mr. Testa brought these policies to the committee:**

**5131.81 Electronic Devices** – The Board’s Technology Department was asked to review this policy. They recommended additions to this policy. 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.

**5141.3 Health Assessments and Immunizations** – Mrs. Stickle, the Board’s Nurse Supervisor, was asked to review this policy. She suggested additional language in order to comply with current laws. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the changes as proposed. Mr. Linton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**5141.7 Concussion** – Mrs. Stickel and Mr. Farrell, the District’s Athletic Director, were asked to review this policy. Minor changes were made to this policy. Dr. Buxton 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 Students Civil and Legal Rights and Responsibilities** - Mrs. Fischer requested another review of this policy. After discussion, revisions were suggested. 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.

**5145.12 Search and Seizure** – Mr. Dorsey, the Board’s attorney, was asked to review this policy. His recommended changes were acceptable to the Board. 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.

**5145.122 Use of Trained Dogs/Other Animals/ Mechanical Search Equipment to Search School Grounds** - Mr. Dorsey, the Board’s attorney, was asked to review this policy. His recommended changes were acceptable to the Board. Mr. Linton made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the changes as proposed. Dr. Buxton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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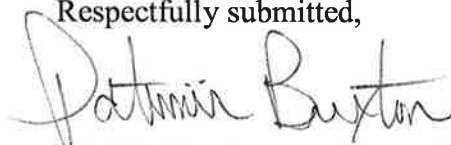
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**5145.124 Breathalyzer Testing** – At the last policy meeting there was much discussion about this policy. It was decided that the Rockville High Principal, Rockville High School’s School Resource Officer, and the Board’s attorney should be consulted. All agreed that this is a necessary policy as well as a deterrent for alcohol use in school and at school-sponsored activities. No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

The next meeting of the policy committee will be scheduled for the fall of 2023. Assignments will be determined several weeks before the meeting.

Mr. Linton made the motion to adjourn at 8:31 PM. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Buxton, Board Secretary