

The Board of Education

Town of Vernon

30 Park Street – PO Box 600
Vernon, Connecticut 06066

Paul Grabowski, Chair
Kristiana Wintress, Vice Chair
Karen Colt, Secretary
Anthony Bedlack
Patricia Buxton
Susan Jablonecki
Kriste Nucci
Simone Sewell
Mason Thrall

November 13, 2024

APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

A Policy Committee meeting of the Vernon Board of Education was held on Wednesday, November 13, 2024.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Colt at 7:12 PM. Present when the meeting was called to order were Ms. Colt, Ms. Sewell, Mrs. Jablonecki and Dr. Macary. Ms. Nucci was absent.

Also present were RHS students Sydney Ingraham, Charlee Carr, Lorelei Hutchings, Liana Wheelock-Bonet and Dr. Macary's intern, Mr. Andrew Longey.

Public Forum – There was no public comment.

Presentation from RHS Students – Senior RHS students Sydney Ingraham, Charlee Carr, Lorelei Hutchings and Liana Wheelock-Bonet gave a presentation to the Committee on their request to be allowed to decorate their graduation caps for next June's ceremony.

Discussion of Non-Discrimination Policy – Dr. Macary discussed non-discrimination policies for Community, Personnel and Students with the Committee.

Ms. Colt was assigned the following policies to review:

3514 Authorized Use of School Equipment - No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

4118.53/4218.53 Electronic Media Communication-Technology Usage – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

4112.5/4212.5 Security Check/Fingerprinting – This policy was revised two and 3/4 years ago. The Committee used the Shipman & Goodwin model policy with optional language. Ms. Colt made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions made as suggested. Ms. Sewell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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4112.51/4212.51 Reference Checks – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

Adoption of Shipman & Goodwin’s Model Policy #5141.8 – Ms. Colt made the motion that we recommend a First Reading of Shipman & Goodwin’s model **Policy #5141.8 – Exertional Heat Illness Awareness** at the next Regular Board of Education meeting as suggested. Mrs. Jablonecki seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Nucci was absent; her assigned policies, 5141.4, 5141.22 and S&G’s Athletic Coaches (Evaluation and Termination) will be reviewed at the next Policy Committee meeting on February 24, 2025.

Ms. Sewell was assigned the following policies to review:

4118.22/4218.22 Code of Ethics – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

Adoption of Shipman & Goodwin’s Model Policy #4119 – Ms. Colt made the motion that we recommend a First Reading of Shipman & Goodwin’s model **Policy #4119 – Code of Ethics** at the next Regular Board of Education meeting as suggested. Ms. Sewell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5141.7 Concussion Policy – This policy was revised one and a half years ago. The Committee used the Shipman & Goodwin model policy. Ms. Sewell made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions made as suggested. Mrs. Jablonecki seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Adoption of Shipman & Goodwin’s Model Policy #5141.9 – Ms. Sewell made the motion that we recommend a First Reading of Shipman & Goodwin’s model **Policy #5141.9 – Emergency Action Plan for Athletic Events** at the next Regular Board of Education meeting as suggested. Ms. Colt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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Mrs. Jablonecki was assigned the following policies to review:

4112 Selection, Appointment, Hiring of Staff (Certified) – This policy was revised two and a half years ago. The Committee used the Shipman & Goodwin model policy. Ms. Colt made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions made as suggested. Mrs. Jablonecki seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4152.6 Family and Medical Leave (FMLA) – This policy was revised two and a half years ago. The Committee used the Shipman & Goodwin model policy. Mrs. Jablonecki made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions made as suggested. Ms. Sewell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4212 Selection, Appointment, Hiring of Staff (Non-Certified) – This policy was revised two and a half years ago. The Committee used the Shipman & Goodwin model policy. Ms. Colt made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions made as suggested. Mrs. Jablonecki seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

District was assigned the following policies to review:

Adoption of Shipman & Goodwin's Model Policy #1130 – Ms. Sewell made the motion that we recommend a First Reading of Shipman & Goodwin's model **Policy #1130 – Non-Discrimination – Community** at the next Regular Board of Education meeting as suggested. Ms. Colt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4118.11/4218.11 Non-Discrimination – Equal Employment Opportunity - This policy was revised one year ago. The Committee used the Shipman & Goodwin model policy. Ms. Sewell made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions made as suggested. Ms. Colt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5145.4 Non-Discrimination – Students - This policy was revised one and a half years ago. The Committee used the Shipman & Goodwin model policy. Ms. Colt made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions made as suggested. Ms. Sewell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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Adoption of Shipman & Goodwin’s Model Policy #5126 – Ms. Colt made the motion that we recommend a First Reading of Shipman & Goodwin’s model **Policy #5126 – FAFSA Completion Program** at the next Regular Board of Education meeting as suggested. Mrs. Jablonecki seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6172 Alternative Education Program - This policy was adopted seven years ago. The Committee decided to table this policy for now.

The next meeting of the Policy Committee will take place on February 24, 2025 at **7:00 PM**.

Ms. Sewell made the motion to adjourn at 8:42 PM. Mrs. Jablonecki seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Colt, Board Secretary

Graduation Caps

Class of 2025 Officers

Why do people decorate their caps

It's a tradition for many students in schools to personally decorate their graduation cap for their graduation ceremony. This event is a fun thing to do after many long years of hard work. Some people get together with their friends to talk about memories from their school years while decorating. Individuals make their caps to represent their past years in school as well as their life ahead of them. Some like to put their accomplishments on their caps such as awards or programs they were in. Some like to use quotes that got them through school or about their next steps. Others use these decorations to show support to people who supported them. Anyway they are decorated people enjoy the process and representing things that mean a lot to them.



How decorated caps add to graduation

- Displays diversity
- Shows accomplishment
- Recognizes individuality
 - Self expression
 - Progressive tradition
- Celebrate accomplishments and/or future plans
- Makes the celebration more meaningful to students



Proposed Regulations

- Sketch has to be made before designing hat to be approved by admin or a trusted student committee
- Sketch must be submitted at least 2 weeks before graduation date to be approved
- Has to abide by the student handbook
- No profanity
- Cannot cover face
- Nothing hanging from the cap (no additions to the tassel)
- Any violation of the regulations regarding decorating caps will cause the student to lose the ability to participate in the graduation ceremony

Class of 2025 support for being allowed to decorate our caps

Abby Fisher, Samantha Johnson, Mihailee Constantopoulos, Charlotte Rumovicz, Maureen Mensah, Cortney Maddox, Liana Wheelock-Bonet, Mackenzie Baretta, Karya Yagtu, Madison Bruce, Giselle Mendes, Chris Rhoades, Amaan Khan, Rijja Rohaan, Ashnah babar, Sydney Ingraham, Madelyn Arey, Matt Baumberger, Bennet Zess, Matt Bannon, Tom Bannon, Jack Stein, Atara Quick, Madelyn Geyer, Hannah Griffin, Chayton Gonzalez, Aiden Custer, Jacob Christopher, Nolan Yencho, Jon Kasamba, Hailey Miller, Paul Westerberg, Victoria Palin, Ny-Ngoc Lai-Huyen, Amber Avery, Emma Skidgel, Liam Hodson, Athena lavigne, Charlee Carr, Lucy Skidgel, Sabreena Lavoie, Alana Williams, Nehamyah Briscoe, Maya Martin, Jeffery Antwi, Preston Langlois, hania Khan, Nicole Mocofofan, Nate Palmer, Arianna Sanchez, Paige Basquiat, Sabrina Chen, Abby Araujo, Mackenzie Fox, Elaina Turcotte, Diona Robinson, Adwoa Tandoh, Genevieve Kinani, Julia Pinard, Rachel Tulsie, Julia Rodriguez, Alexander Walden, Kevin Reid, Nate Bundy, Grace Colbert, Alexis Soucier, Abbigail Delude, Yshiali Santiago, Colby Derosier, Connor Michaelson, Johnel Padilla, Quincy Crawford, Jonathan Breer, Aiden Cortes, Camden Huynh, Patrick Boya, Idalyse Gauthier, E'mya Allen, Noah melendez, Brady Ramsdell, Alexia Diaz, Nathan Fauteux, Christopher Johnson, Tywain King, Matthew Garcia, Jacob Owusu, Lorelei Hutchings, Ben Krupienski, Nicholas Moran, Andrew Aubin, Emily Owens, Genevieve Sticesen

