

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

October 2, 2023

APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

A Policy Committee meeting of the Vernon Board of Education was held on Monday, October 2, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Buxton at 6:04 PM. Present when the meeting was called to order were Dr. Buxton, Mrs. Fischer, Mr. Linton, Ms. Wintress, Dr. Macary and Mr. Magao.

Public Forum – There was no public comment.

Mr. Magao proposed Regulations for Attendance:

Mr. Magao, Rockville High School's Principal, presented to the committee possible attendance regulations to align with our Attendance Policy, since Covid attendance has been a significant problem. These regulations were developed with input from many stakeholders. The policy committee members were in favor of all regulations as presented. The committee appreciated the work done to prepare these regulations and supported going forward with this. Dr. Macary will share these with the Board. Ms. Wintress made the motion that the entire Board approve the proposed attendance regulations as presented. Mr. Linton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dr. Buxton was assigned the following policies to review:

6142.1 Family Life Education – Dr. Buxton suggested that CABE's first paragraph of this policy replace our current first paragraph as well as suggested a minor revision in the third paragraph of our current paragraph. Mr. Linton made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the revisions to the policy as discussed. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6142.101 District Wellness Policy – This policy was reviewed and updated by the Wellness Committee three years ago. Dr. Macary was asked to bring this back to the wellness committee so that they can decide if it needs any revisions/updates. It will then be brought back to the policy committee for final review.

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

October 2, 2023

6144.1 Exemption from Instruction – Several revisions were suggested for this policy. Mr. Linton made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval these revisions as suggested. Mrs. Fischer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6145 Extracurricular Activities/Equal Access – Significant changes were recommended for this policy aligning with CABE’s policy and current practices. Ms. Wintress made the motion that we recommend to the full Board for approval these revisions as suggested. Mrs. Fischer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Linton was assigned the following policies to review:

6145.2 Interscholastic/Intramural Activities – Mr. Linton suggested merging language from our current policy with CABE’s language. 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.

6145.3 Student Publications – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

6145.8 School Activities – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

6145 Graduation Requirements -This policy will be referred to our Teaching and Learning Directors for review/revision. Graduation requirements mandated by the State have changed. Our staff will review and ensure that our policy is updated accordingly. Dr. Macary will bring this policy back to the committee once Teaching and Learning has completed the necessary revisions.

Mrs. Fischer was assigned the following policies to review:

6146.1 Grading System – No revisions were 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
Mason Thrall, Vice Chairperson
Patricia Buxton, Secretary
Karen Colt
Paul Grabowski
Mark Kalina
Stephen Linton
Deborah Rodriguez
Kristiana Wintress

October 2, 2023

6146.2 Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations – Mrs. Fischer suggested that the paragraph under “Participation” be deleted and replaced with CABE’s proposed language. 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.

6152 Grouping – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

6153 Field Trips – Revisions were proposed for this policy. Ms. Wintress 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.

Ms. Wintress was assigned the following policies to review:

6154 Homework – This policy will be referred to our Teaching and Learning Directors for review/revision. Dr. Macary will bring this back to the committee after Teaching and Learning has reviewed and possibly revised the policy.

6161 Equipment, Books and Materials – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

6161.1 Evaluation of Instructional Materials – No revisions were suggested for this policy. It will be marked as reviewed.

6161.2 Care of Instructional Materials – Minor revisions were suggested for this policy. 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.

Dr. Macary brought these policies to the committee:

5125 Student Record Confidentiality – Dr. Macary proposed adding CABE’s language under the section marked “Directory Information”. 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.

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

October 2, 2023

5145.51 Sexual Harassment – Mr. Dorsey was asked to review policies #5145.51 (Sexual Harassment) and #5144.511 (Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program) to determine if they could be merged into one policy. His recommendation was to keep both policies separate and as they exist. Therefore, this policy #5145.51 will be marked as reviewed.

5144.511 Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program - Mr. Dorsey was asked to review policies #5145.51 (Sexual Harassment) and #5144.511 (Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program) to determine if they could be merged into one policy. His recommendation was to keep both policies separate and as they exist. Therefore, this policy #5145.511 will be marked as reviewed.

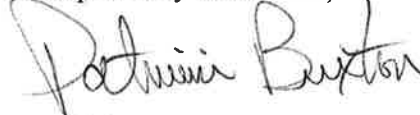
6159 Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program – Dr. Macary suggested that the first two paragraphs of our current policy be replaced with the first two paragraphs of CABE’s policy. Mrs. Fischer made the motion to recommend to the full Board for approval the changes as proposed. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6162.51 Surveys of Students (NEW) – Dr. Macary shared with the committee that this policy is now a mandated policy and we do not currently have one. He suggested that we adopt CABE’s sample policy and present it to the full Board for a FIRST READ and then possibly approval by the full Board at a subsequent meeting (as is per our By-Laws). Mrs. Fischer made the motion to present this policy to the full Board as a new policy and ask for approval at a subsequent meeting. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the policy committee was not scheduled because there will be a new Board in a few weeks and, thus, new committee members after the election. Once the committee is established with its new members, a meeting date and assignments will be determined.

Mr. Linton made the motion to adjourn at 7:49 PM. Ms. Wintress seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Buxton, Ed.D., Board Secretary