

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 15, 2016**

ATTENDANCE: Heidi Keyes, Chair; Mike Barbis, Erik Anderson (6:10 p.m.)
STAFF: Brenda Williams, Director of Communications;
Frank Costanzo, Chief of School Operations
OTHER: Rosa Murray, Former BOE Member; Molly Yordon, NFT;
Joe Giandurco, Ponus Ridge Middle School;

Call to Order

Ms. Keyes called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. and stated that Committee members were in attendance as listed above, and a quorum was present.

Information and Reports: Policy 1211, School Governance Councils

Ms. Keyes referred to last month's meeting, as Dr. Adamowski had initiated this policy back in December that was followed by reviews of drafts of the policy. She went through the policy highlights and fielded questions and comments from members of the public. There was dialogue and a workshop format exchange of information, and comments as follows:

There was discussion on the changes made to comply with state guidelines, CABA training, and statement of inclusion for membership.

There was discussion on the proposed timing for this to be approved so that membership elections can take place in May for the Councils to be formed for the beginning of the 2016-17 school year. It was agreed to continue to seek feedback from the Principals where SGCs are currently in place.

**** MS. KEYES MOVED TO APPROVE THE DRAFT POLICY 1211 SCHOOL GOVERNANCE COUNCILS AND FORWARD TO THE FULL BOARD FOR DISCUSSION AT THE APRIL 5 MEETING THEN ON FOR APPROVAL ACTION AT THE APRIL 19 MEETING.**

**** MR. BARBIS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED WITH TWO VOTES IN FAVOR, (BARBIS, KEYES) ONE OPPOSED (ANDERSON) AND NO ABSTENTIONS.**

Ms. Keyes noted that will now go to the full Board for a discussion at the first meeting in April and then vote at the second April meeting. Mr. Anderson asked it be noted for the record that he was not opposed to the policy but was concerned that there were too many unanswered areas regarding timing for elections and implementation of the School Governance Councils.

Discussion: Bylaw 9010 - Limits of Authority

Ms. Keyes explained the bylaw was written in 1985 and last reviewed in 1997 and it was noted to that it was Attorney Mooney's recommendation to remove the first sentence.

The Board of Education does not exist between meetings...

Ms. Keyes noted that CABE (Connecticut Association of Boards of Education) stated standard policies do not have this language and they are not aware of any Board other than Norwalk that has that. Mr. Barbis added that Attorney Mooney has said in 30 years representing Boards he has never seen this anywhere else, as far as language, Boards clearly do exist between meetings, they simply cannot act between meetings.

Ms. Keyes requested for this to be approved to go to the full Board for a discussion at the first meeting in April and then vote at the second April meeting.

**** MR. ANDERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE DRAFT POLICY 9010 LIMITS OF AUTHORITY, AND FORWARD TO THE FULL BOARD FOR DISCUSSION AT THE APRIL 5 MEETING THEN ON FOR APPROVAL ACTION AT THE APRIL 19 MEETING.**

**** MR. BARBIS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Adjournment

**** MR. BARBIS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Knox, Telesco Secretarial Services

Reference: Revised 03.11.2016 Draft of School Governance Policy