

BOARD OF EDUCATION
FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FAIRFIELD, CT

Policy Committee Special Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 4, 2022
5:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Minutes

In Attendance:

Mr. Michael Cummings, Dr. Zakia Parrish, Ms. Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly, Ms. Jennifer Jacobsen, Ms. Carol Guernsey, Ms. Kristen Hardiman, Mr. Marco Taddei

Call to Order – Ms. Maxon-Kennelly called meeting to order at 5:03pm.

Approval of December 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes – postponed to February 4, 2022 meeting

Approval of 2022 Policy Committee Meeting Dates – Approved by 3-0 vote.

Policy:

A. Discussion and Possible Approval of Policies Affected by Latest DPH Guidance

Committee discussed and approved changes to language in policies 6999 Distance Learning and C19.8/5113 Attendance/Excuses/Dismissal.

In policy 6999 District-Provided Distance Learning in Response to Emergencies, Section II, the committee approved the removal of language “Health Department directed”.

In policy 5113(b)/C-19.8(b), under Excused Absence section, the committee approved the removal of the word “Health Department” under items “G” and “H”. In policy 5113(c)/C-19.8(c), under Excused Absence section, the committee approved the removal of the word “or direct contact with someone with a positive COVID-19 test”. In policy 5113(c)/C-19.8(c), under Unexcused Absence section, the committee approved the removal of the word “health department directed”. The committee approved the addition of language to that paragraph to include “Teachers will review student work and/or virtual attendance in class to determine if the student’s excused absences will be changed to ‘present’.”

The above language changes in policies 6999 and 5113/C-19.8 will be present to the Board of Education on January 11, 2022 for final approval.

B. Grading Policy

The committee continued to work on the draft of the grading policy to presented to the Board of Education at a future date.

Future Items:

Fundraising at the School Level/PTA Donations

Open Discussion/Public Comment – Ms. Maxon-Kennelly opened public comment at 6:30pm.

Amy Sperrazza – 322 Brambly Hedge Circle – disagreed with the Superintendent’s communication with parents regarding masking during the lunch time.

Brittney Cianciulli – 137 Middlebrook Drive – concerned about announcement relating to children re-masking while eating lunch; requests better communication to parents.

Taylor Nelson – 1537 Redding Road – concerned about her children not wanting to return to school due to masking during snack time; requests better communication from BOE administration and school administrators.

Michelle Drennen – 1250 South Pine Creek Road – disagreed with Superintendent’s decision to require masks during snack/lunch time; expressed concern about conflicting information from different school principals regarding mask wearing during snack/lunch time.

Adjournment -Ms. Maxon-Kennelly adjourned meeting at 7:40pm.