



Citizens' Policy Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Administration Building

Attendees: Vano Alania, Teresa Barker, Dr. David Baugh, Andrew Drago, Katie Driban, Jim Ford, Nick Griffin, Julie Henrich, Scott Huber, Ken Karff, Michelle Lockett, Becky MacInnes, Hannah Messner, Dr. Jennifer Polinchock, Christine Richie, Ellen Torre, Margaret Yaure

Topic	Notes	Follow Up
1. Welcome	The committee introduced themselves as we have some new members to the committee.	
2. Minutes:	Reviewed and approved the minutes from June 3, 2015.	
3. Purpose of Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Driban shared the goals and purpose of the committee as well as the steps that are taken when the Board adopts a new policy. She also explained what Administrative Regulations (ARs) are and that the ARs don't need to come to the committee and also are not required to be approved by the Board. 	
4. Policy 916. Volunteers and 916-AR-0 Volunteer Disclosure Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy 916. Volunteers has been brought to Administrative Policy Committee and to Citizens Policy Committee because the laws have changed regarding background check requirements for volunteers. This policy provides clarification as to who needs clearances and who doesn't. The policy also provides examples of situations when a parent/guardian is considered a volunteer, helper or visitor. A volunteer is present on a regular basis, may work with student, may have control over students and guide students. A helper provides intermittent help, not on a regular basis and a visitor is never alone with students (ex: American Education Week, concerts – no supervision of students). This policy helps clarify what level parents fall into. - The schools utilize the Raptor system, which scans the driver's license of all who visit the school and provides an alert for any person with a criminal offense. - The existing Volunteers policy requires everyone who visited the schools for a classroom event to have their clearances (ex: ice cream breaker). The process excluded parents who couldn't afford clearances and 	

	<p>also those who didn't have time to obtain their clearances prior to the event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Human Resources Department utilizes a tracking system to ensure that we capture everyone who needs to renew their clearances. - Volunteers must renew their clearances every five (5) years. - A suggestion was made to provide clearance requirements to parents on Back to School Night. - 916-AR-0. Volunteer Disclosure Form was reviewed. Changes were made instructing parents to return the form to the Human Resources Department and also an origination date was added to the form to ensure that the form that the parent is using is the most current form. 	<p>Provide clearance requirements to parents on Back to School Night.</p>
<p>5. Policy 819. Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy 819. Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response is a new policy to the District. The state has required every district in the Commonwealth to adopt a Suicide policy. - The policy's purpose is to educate staff members to recognize the signs of students in distress and to guide the prevention of suicide utilizing teams of staff members who are trained in this area. The policy also guides the District's response in the unfortunate event of a student's death by suicide. - It is important that students feel comfortable reporting to an adult in the school if they are feeling suicidal and also if they feel that another student may be suicidal. - The District is looking into expanding programs to grades K-12 regarding mental health issues for children. The age of students feeling suicidal is becoming younger and younger. - There is an increase in mental health issues among students across the state. At the high school, the incidents of feeling depressed or suicidal seems to be increasing. Many of the students come from strong, healthy families. The pressures and stress of being a teenager today have increased. - Peer pressure is present among all ages, but seems to peak in grades 7-9. - The fact that social media is available 24/7 doesn't help. - This policy will be placed on the October 27th Board agenda for approval. 	
<p>6. Adjournment</p>	<p>Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, November 4, 2015 – 6:00 pm</p>	

