

EDUCATION/COMMUNITY/POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT – 6/20/13

The June ECP Committee Meeting was held on Thursday, June 13, 2013. On the agenda that evening were two new Board policies as well as two amended Board policies.

One of the new Board Policies presented to the Committee for review was #5143 concerning School Nutrition Services Family Fiscal Responsibility. The purpose of this policy is to establish a practice for collecting negative balances that is respectful of students and their families, maintains a consistent practice among the schools, while also being fiscally prudent. Procedures for elementary, middle, and high schools were developed to be appropriate for the different age groups.

The Committee reviewed a second new policy - #3630 Tax Exempt Bonds. This policy was developed by the bond counsel to be in compliance with the law and the IRS requirement of having a documented policy.

In addition to the new policies, the Committee reviewed two related policies that have been amended to address expected changes in instructional practices that will allow students to use their own electronic devices. These policies are #6166(a) – Internet Responsible and Acceptable Use and #5131.2 – Use of Electronic Devices.

The Committee also received an update regarding the Wellness efforts throughout the district during 2012-13. Health/Physical Education is a standards based curriculum. Events such as GAS and a student triathlon were conducted and were well received. School Nutrition Services continues to provide healthy meals that meet state and Federal guidelines. Another information topic presented to the committee concerned the changes to the Northbridge curriculum. These changes will provide credit recovery options and a more personalized learning environment for eligible secondary students. The committee also heard concerns regarding Administrative Regulation #6119 that addresses the recognition of holidays in schools. After discussion the committee recommended allowing principals additional discretion in approving class parties.

All four Board policies were recommended to be moved to the Board Action Meeting.

The next ECP Committee meeting will be Monday, August 12th at 6:30 p.m.