

**BOE Policy Committee Minutes  
Wednesday, October 14, 2020  
Virtual Meeting 8:30 A.M.**

*In consideration of public health, open meetings and the Governor’s Executive Order No. 7B dated March 10, 2020 regarding PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID- 19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - FURTHER SUSPENSION OR MODIFICATION OF STATUTES; this meeting will include an option for the public to phone in to listen to the audio of the meeting. Please note that public comment will be received by phone at the beginning and end of this meeting.*

**CALL TO ORDER** Meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

**IN ATTENDANCE** Rebekah Harriman-Stites, Dan Cruson, Lorrie Rodrigue, Sarah Connell, Suzanne D’Eramo

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**APPROVE MINUTES** Rebekah Harriman-Stites made a motion to approve the minutes of September 30, 2020. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

**UNFINISHED NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion and possible action:**

Item	Reports
<p><b>Policy 5145.42 – Racial Harassment</b></p> <p>L. Rodrigue and A. Uberti reviewed this policy prior to the meeting and made an edit on the first page. The 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph will now read: <u><i>“The Diversity Compliance Coordinator, in collaboration with the Superintendent and District Administrative Team, is directed to support the development and implementation of specific procedures on reporting, investigating, and remedying allegations of racial harassment.”</i></u> The committee asked S. Connell to change all references to “District Coordinator” to <u><i>“Diversity Compliance Coordinator”</i></u>.</p> <p>R. Harriman-Sites expressed concern that the District does not currently have this position and the policy states we will. D. Cruson said that he interprets it as not a new position and that it can be an additional role like the Title IX coordinator. L. Rodrigue would like to appoint someone as the District Compliance Coordinator this year.</p> <p>R. Harriman-Stites asked if there will be training for staff/students. L. Rodrigue will add language referring to the Annoynous Tip Line.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• S. Connell will send this policy to K. June for BOE first read.</li></ul>

<p><b>Policy 4118.237/4218.237/5141.8 – Face Masks/Coverings</b></p> <p>L. Rodrigue reviewed this policy with D. Culbert. D. Culbert agreed that Shipman and Goodwin’s policy best reflected Newtown’s current practice. The committee asked about the language in the regulation that states: <i>“School district personnel supervising students shall only permit a face-covering break when individuals who are indoors are a minimum of 12 feet apart.”</i> L. Rodrigue agreed that “a minimum of 12 feet apart” is not Newtown’s current practice and will meet with D. Culbert again to review.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L. Rodrigue and D. Culbert to review the regulation for this policy</li> <li>• S. Connell will invite D. Culbert to the next virtual policy meeting.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 4112.5 – Security/Credit Check</b></p> <p>S. D’Eramo presented her edits to the committee and the committee agreed that this policy is ready to go into the 4000 series queue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S. Connell will send this policy to the 4000 series queue.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 4112.51 – Reference Checks</b></p> <p>S. D’Eramo spoke with Shipman and Goodwin about this policy and it was decided to combine with Policy 4112.5 – Security/Credit Check.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No further action is required.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 4112.6 – Personnel Records</b></p> <p>S. D’Eramo will review this policy with Shipman and Goodwin.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S. Connell will invite S. D’Eramo to an upcoming virtual meeting.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 4112.61 – Use and Disclosure of Employee Medical Information</b></p> <p>S. D’Eramo spoke with Shipman and Goodwin about this policy and it was recommended that we do not move forward with this policy. The committee agreed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No further action is required.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 4112.8 – Nepotism, Husband/Wife Employment</b></p> <p>The committee reviewed Shipman and Goodwin’s policy and asked L. Rodrigue to reach out to other Superintendent’s in the District for their input and if their District currently has a policy on this topic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S. Connell will invite S. D’Eramo to an upcoming virtual meeting.</li> <li>• L. Rodrigue will bring her findings to the next policy meeting.</li> </ul>

## UPDATE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

A motion was made by Rebekah Harriman-Stites to postpone discussion/action on Policy 4118.237/4218.237/5141.8 – Face Masks/Coverings, Policy 4112.6 – Personnel Records, Policy 4112.8 – Nepotism, Husband/Wife Employment. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Rebekah Harriman-Stites to send Policy 5145.42 – Racial Harassment for Board review. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Rebekah Harriman-Stites made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 9:21 a.m