

**BOE Policy Committee Minutes**  
**Wednesday, September 15, 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM**  
**Municipal Building, BOE Conference Meeting Room**  
**3 Primrose St, Newtown, CT 06470**

**CALL TO ORDER** Meeting was called to order at 9:15am.

**IN ATTENDANCE** Rebekah Harriman-Stites, Dan Cruson, Lorrie Rodrigue, Suzanne D’Eramo, Susan Small, 2 Public

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** None

**APPROVE MINUTES** Rebekah Harriman-Stites made a motion to approve the minutes of September 1, 2021. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Discussion and possible action:**

Item	Reports
<p><b>Policy 1120 – Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings</b></p> <p>The committee reviewed this policy and related BOE <b>Policy 9325</b> (Meeting Conduct) along with CABE’s version of Policy 9325. Committee members noted there are no set time limits for public participation, but rather, limits are at the discretion of the BOE, which could warrant a future conversation. Committee agreed to make no changes at this time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No further action is required.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 4118.239/4218.239 – Required Covid-19 Vaccinations</b></p> <p>The committee noted this policy is outdated as written and that the requirements in it are already mandated. Current Covid-19 requirements are outlined in the latest Governor’s order. Committee noted Newtown has a broad masking policy. L. Rodrigue will talk with colleagues in other school districts for their input for the next meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L. Rodrigue will bring her findings to the next policy meeting.</li> <li>• S. Connell will bring Policy 4118.237/4218.237/5141.8 – Face Masks/Coverings to the next meeting for reference, not review.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 6162.51 – Surveys of Students/Student Privacy</b></p> <p>Committee reviewed a comprehensive sample policy in the <b>5000</b> series (Students) provided by Shipman and Goodwin on <b>Student Privacy</b>. There is currently no single policy that covers all the aspects outlined in the sample. Committee requested input from CABE and other school districts, including appropriate numbering, for the next meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L. Rodrigue will bring her findings from other school districts to the next policy meeting.</li> <li>• S. Small will contact CABE for a Student Privacy policy, if they have one, and what their numbering is.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Policy 5145.6 – Student Grievance Procedures (Title IX)</b>  This policy has been rescinded. <b>Policy 5145.5 (Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 – Prohibition of Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harrassment)</b> was passed at the 9/8/21 Board of Education meeting. Committee requested clarification of the BOE’s role in the grievance process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L. Rodrigue will look at the regulation 5145.5 regarding the grievance process and report back to the BOE.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy 4118.12 – Freedom of Speech</b>  The committee agreed to remove from the first page of the regulation the words “adopted by the Newtown Board of Education (the “Board”).”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S. Small will make the approved edit and send to K. June for BOE’s second read.</li> </ul>

**UPDATE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT**

L. Rodrigue will bring any upcoming Covid-19 related changes to the Policy Committee; currently there are none. CABE and Shipman and Goodwin are good at sending timely updates.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Jenn Padilla, 32 Glen Road, Sandy Hook commented on 2 items: Policy 1120/9325 and Policy 4118.239/4218.239

**ADJOURNMENT**

Rebekah Harriman-Stites made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Cruson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 9:55am.