



## Wake County Board of Education Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2012

1:00pm

Board Conference Room, Crossroads I

Jim Martin, Committee Chair

Debra Goldman, Vice Chair

PURPOSE: To address policy issues.

OUTCOMES: By the end of the meeting, Committee Members will have:

- Approval of the August 28, 2012 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
- Approval of the September 25, 2012 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
- Review Policy 2303/3003/4003 Criminal Records Check
- Review Policy 2333/3033/4033 Reporting Information To The Principal And External Agencies
- Review PLT Policies 3610/4510/5040
- Policy Committee Discussion of Policy 1519 Board Resolutions
- Discussion of the Transparency Policy

TOPIC	WHO	TIME
Welcome and Introductions Desired Outcomes	Chair Martin	1:09 – 1:10
Board Members Present: James Martin Christine Kushner Susan Evans Debra Goldman (arrived at 1:13 PM) John Tedesco (arrived at 1:28 PM)  Staff Present: Gainey Moore Neter Mulder  Attorney Present: Jonathan Blumberg  The meeting was called to Order at 1:09 PM. The committee deputized Ms. Evans as a member in order to achieve a quorum. Dr. Martin suggested that the committee may need more than 15 minutes on the PLT discussion so the committee should bunch stuff at beginning to provide more time for the PLT discussion.		
Approval of the August 28, 2012 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes	All	1:10 – 1:11

Approval of the September 25, 2012 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes		
Ms. Kushner made a motion to approve August 28, 2012 and September 25, 2012 minutes. Ms. Evans seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.		
Review Policy 2303/3003/4003 Criminal Records Check	Stephen Gainey	1:11 – 1:14
<p>Dr. Gainey explained that the policy changes are requested in order to clean up the language of the policy and become more transparent with all employees including bus drivers and volunteers. Dr. Martin raised questions about conducting the criminal record check after hiring. Dr. Gainey stated that staff will look at it and see what they can do.</p> <p>Ms. Kushner made a motion to send the policy to the board for a first reading. Ms. Goldman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>		
Review Policy 2333/3033/4033 Reporting Information To The Principal And External Agencies	Stephen Gainey	1:14 – 1:22
<p>Dr. Gainey explained that staff is bringing the policy back because legislature said to take “reasonable belief” out of the policy. Ms. Kushner clarified that the policy is being revised because the legislature requested the revision. Dr. Gainey affirmed the clarification. Dr. Martin raised the question that a school employee may misinterpret the obligation to report for varying levels of employees. Dr. Gainey stated that the staff will review the language. Mr. Blumberg explained that putting WCPSS in the policy may create ambiguity in the differentiation between policies that state “employees” and policy that state “WCPSS.” Dr. Martin questioned the “reasonable belief” language in other areas of the policy. Mr. Blumberg explained that in the other section of the policy refers to a DPI regulation. Dr. Gainey explained that the policies are for student and staff safety.</p> <p>Ms. Goldman made motion to send the policy to the board. Ms. Kushner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>		
Review PLT Policies 3610/4510/5040	Cathy Moore	1:22 – 1:36
<p>Ms. Moore explained that staff is making changes to align the board policy with what is actually being done in PLTs. The policy changes include the PLT survey being implemented bi-annually (every two years), schools provide an hour each week for PLT participation and Area Superintendents will assist with PLT implementation as needed, school leadership teams monitor PLTs and area special assistants will help if they are having trouble with PLT implementation, schools will communicate to families the work being done, and central services administration will also work in PLTs. Ms. Kushner questioned whether a bi-annual survey is enough to make sure PLT structure remains embedded? Ms. Moore stated she believed so because School Improvement Planning is intertwined with PLT planning. Dr. Gainey shared that if it is not being done in the schools, it will be evident through instructional issues in schools. Ms. Moore shared that PLT goals should be flexible and allow for modifications. Ms. Evans agreed with Ms. Moore’s assessment. Dr. Martin expressed concern with adding responsibility to teachers without compensation for it. He cautioned having the time length language in the policy. Mr. Tedesco explained that in the PLT discussion that there was a 3 phase approach to create flexibility for schools to select their timing for the PLTs. Ms. Moore explained that staff is simply establishing a threshold of 60 minutes. Dr. Martin stated his concern is making sure that teachers’ time to plan for their own classroom is protected. Dr. Martin shared an additional concern with striking the “providing resources” language. Dr. Martin questioned if as a board and Central office, is there not a responsibility to provide resources? Dr. Martin would like to see “resources” in the bullet. Mr. Blumberg suggested including the language, “provide resources and support for school based professional learning teams as appropriate.” Dr. Gainey and Ms. Moore assured the committee that staff would work on the policy. Ms. Kushner pointed out that the instructional hours needed to be updated in the policy.</p>		

<p>Ms. Kushner moved to send the policy to the board including the feedback provided in the policy committee discussion. Mr. Tedesco seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>		
<p>Policy Committee Discussion of Policy 1519 Board Resolutions</p>	<p>Jonathan Blumberg</p>	<p>1:36 – 2:00</p>
<p>Mr. Blumberg explained that the policy is designed to give Board members adequate time and information prior to making a decision. Mr. Blumberg explained that the first part of the policy is from the current board preparation policy; he further explained that the second part of the policy explains when a resolution is appropriate. Mr. Blumberg also acknowledged that the policy addresses when a resolution is not appropriate; decisions shouldn't be made by resolution when it should be addressed in policy because policies have long standing value and resolutions address "one-point in time." Mr. Tedesco expressed a desire to see the "one-point in time" language more defined in the policy. The committee discussed the operational language of the policy. Dr. Martin cautioned there not being an operational component to a resolution when needed. Mr. Tedesco explained that he was trying to see if there is an opportunity to provide a little more clarity. Mr. Blumberg explained that the policy is different to word because of how resolutions were handled in the past, i.e. resolution to adopt a new student assignment policy. He explained that Advanced Ed comments directed the board to not use resolutions to circumvent policy; and the board needs to prevent creating resolutions that are addressed by an existing policy. Dr. Martin suggested included adding the statement that any resolution should be presented in writing. Mr. Blumberg suggested including a statement that states, "policy shall be the manner in which the board determines the ongoing operations and governance or the schools system." Dr. Martin shared Robert's Rules of Order's direction on resolutions.</p> <p>Ms. Goldman moved to send the policy to the board with the two revisions. Ms. Kushner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Dr. Martin asked the committee to consider the policy becoming a part of Policy 1322: Agendas. Mr. Blumberg recommended that this be a standalone policy. The committee agreed to add a cross-reference to the Rules of Order.</p> <p>Ms. Goldman moved to send policy to the board with the two revisions and the cross-reference. Kushner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>		
<p>Policy Committee Discussion of the Transparency Policy</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>2:00 – 2:30</p>
<p>Ms. Majestic did some research regarding Transparency policies. Her research did not yield any transparency policies in NC. Mr. Blumberg presented several options with regard to the creation and implementation of the transparency policy. Mr. Blumberg provided legal comments on the draft policy and the potential cost of staff redacting confidential information, the cost of potential attorney time, and the implications if documents are not redacted correctly. Mr. Blumberg summarized that a transparency policy could present potential challenges to the district administration. Mr. Neter expressed concerns with providing some of the information requested in the policy. Ms. Goldman expressed that the purpose of the policy is the make the information easily searchable. Ms. Evans expressed that the cost of implementing the policy outweighed the benefit and the board needs to be reasonable as to what can be offered to the public. Ms. Kushner stated she would like to see a more organic policy that is specific to WCPSS. Dr. Martin reiterated Mr. Blumberg's question regarding the need for a policy in addition to the public information policy. Ms. Goldman stated that the draft was a tool to prompt discussion and action and raised the question as to how to back up the work that staff is doing. Ms. Mulder summarized her understanding of the need for the transparency policy as being having information easily searchable and streamlining accessibility to the information. Dr. Gainey stated that with moving forward there is a need to give consideration to the demands on the FACE staff and whatever is developed being something that can be maintained accurately. Ms. Goldman suggested adding language and R&amp;P to</p>		

policy 2500. Dr. Gainey suggested that we give the FACE staff additional time prior to moving forward with the changes in the policy to see what the end result of their current work will be. Ms. Evans agreed with Dr. Gainey's suggestion. Dr. Gainey suggested bringing this back for discussion at the start of the calendar year. The committee agreed to bring the policy back to the committee in January for discussion and review the integration of ideas from the transparency policy and the existing policy 2500 with an update from staff as to whether an R&P will be valuable or not.

Ms. Kushner moved to bring the policy back to the committee in January for discussion and review the integration of ideas from the transparency policy and the existing policy 2500 with an update from staff as to whether an R&P will be valuable or not . Mr. Tedesco seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment	Chair Martin	2:30
Mr. Tedesco moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Goldman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.		

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Dr. James Martin, Policy Committee Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Dr. Stephen Gainey, Staff Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Dr. N. Chaunté Garrett, Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date