

BOARD OF EDUCATION
FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FAIRFIELD, CT

Policy Committee Meeting

Monday, December 1, 2014

Minutes

- I. Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 4:36 by the Chair, Jennifer Kennelly. John Convertito and Donna Karnal, committee members, were also in attendance along with Mike Rafferty representing the administration and Bob Smoler, FEA President.
- II. Election of Chair: John moved to nominate Jennifer Kennelly and Donna seconded, vote of 3:0:0
- III. Approval of November 17, 2014, Minutes: 3:0:0 with two edits:
 - III. 5 lines down "a~~N~~ edited version"
 - III. 7 lines down "Section ~~V~~" (not IV)
- IV. Establish date for January meeting: two changes made, added a Policy meeting on Monday, 1/26 to keep with our pattern of a policy meeting preceding each Regular BoE mtg., and changing Tues 9/15 to Monday, 9/21.
- V. Policy

Policy #5516 Students – Life Threatening Allergies and Glycogen Storage Disease Management Policy: Jen summarized what transpired at the Board meeting, as both John and Donna were not in attendance. John indicated that he supported the original language submitted by the committee to the board and not the amended language made at the board table. Jennifer repeated her objections to the language that was passed by the committee. A lively discussion ensued. All affirmed their belief that teachers will do their best to control the foods in the classrooms. Discussion took place regarding simplifying the amended language so as to remove any mention of "best efforts" or "reading food labels" or "ascertaining food ingredients" so that such details are left to the work of the District Wide team. No additional language was suggested as the Board will discuss the policy at the December 9 meeting and is awaiting legal advice.
- VI. Open Discussion/Public Comment: Robert Smoler, President of the FEA spoke to the problematic nature of the changes that were made at the Board table. A member of the public indicated that teachers should not have to feel alone in this situation and there is a need for community-wide education. A question was raised regarding the role of the Board of Health.

John Convertito mentioned that he suggested to Dr. Title that we should have a CABE Policy audit done, and all members agreed. Dr. Title told John that money has already been set aside in the budget for a CABE Policy audit in 2015-16.
- VII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

DRAFT

All meetings will be held at 501 Kings Highway East, Superintendent's Conference Room unless otherwise noted.