



Southern Lehigh School District
Board of School Directors
Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2024 @ 2:00p.m.
Southern Lehigh High School Board Room
5800 Main Street | Center Valley, PA 18034

1. OPENING

a. Roll Call/ Recording of Attendance

The meeting was called to order by Emily Gehman, Committee Chair at 2:00p.m. *Present:* Emily Gehman, Candi Kruse, Timothy Kearney (*Committee Members*); Michael Mahon, Karen Trinkle, Ethan Ake-Little, Andria Buchman (*Administrators*); Victoria Maund (*Community Member*)

b. Approval of Minutes (April 3rd Meeting)

The Committee approved meeting minutes for the April 2024 Policy Committee Meeting.

2. OVERVIEW OF PROCESS & POLICIES FOR CONSIDERATION (*Brief Presentation*)

The presentation by Dr. Ethan Ake-Little recapitulated the logistics of the policy review process including (a) administrative review leading to a first draft and (b) the Policy Committee's approach to policy review.

3. SECOND DRAFT POLICIES FOR REVIEW (*Discussion*)

a. Policy 105.1: Review of Instructional Materials by Parents/ Guardians and Students (*Last Updated: MAY 2023, First Review: APR 2024*)

b. Policy 105.2: Exemption from Instruction and Assessment (*Last Updated: MAY 2023, First Review: APR 2024*)

The Committee discussed these two (2) policies collectively since they focused on parental/ guardian and student rights to teaching and learning resources. The Committee endorsed minor changes to language stemming from solicitor feedback and recommend them for First Reading before the full Board of School Directors at their May 13, 2024 Meeting.

c. Policy 122: Extracurricular Activities (*Last Updated: DEC 2015, First Review: MAR 2024*)

The Committee discussed a portion of this policy as it related to on-campus and off-campus student behavior and, in turn, asked the Administration to review language in the MS and HS handbooks to ensure there was consistency in language with related policies. The Committee requested the policy be reviewed at the June 2024 Policy Committee Meeting.

4. FIRST DRAFT POLICIES FOR REVIEW (*Discussion*)

a. Policy 103.1: Non-Discrimination for Qualified Students with Disabilities (*NEW*)



The Committee closely reviewed the new policy given its depth and breadth with discussion devoted to not only the parental/ guardian and pupil rights of qualified students but also the review/ appeals process. The Committee requested further information regarding certain aspects of these topics and requested a second review at the June 2024 Policy Committee Meeting.

- b. Policy 112: School Counseling (*Last Updated: MAY 2023*)
- c. Policy 114: Gifted Education (*Last Updated: JUNE 2020*)
- d. Policy 117: Homebound Instruction (*Last Updated: MAY 2023*)

For Policy 114 and Policy 117, the Committee recommended minor language changes and approved them for First Reading before the full Board of School Directors at the May 13, 2024 Meeting. For Policy 122, there were no recommends for language changes and, therefore, the current policy stands.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Board Review of Policy 123/ 123.1/ 123.2/ 123.4
- b. Lehigh County Non-Discrimination Ordinance
- c. June 2024 Policy Committee Meeting

The Administration and the Committee discussed the implementation of the new Lehigh County Human Relations Commission and its potential effects on District policies. Additionally, the Administration solicited feedback on specific policies of interest for the June 2024 Policy Committee Meeting. Due to time constraints, the Committee opted to discuss the future of the Policy 123 series at the June 2024 Policy Committee Meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT