

## WSC POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

April 6, 2021

Meeting called to order at 10:08am.

Roll Call: Ellen Grieco and Kim Reichelt both present and participating remotely

No public attendees were present.

1) There was no public comment.

2) Policy Review

### KE - Public Complaints

Ellen discussed her concerns about anonymous complaints, and wants to encourage people to put their names to it. Kim noted that we often see people who have legitimate concerns be empowered to come forward because of anonymity. Kim reviewed other towns' policies, and nearly all use the MASC language about disregarding anonymous comments.

Ellen suggested wording such as: "It is the policy of the committee to encourage people to identify themselves when they bring forth their complaint. However, the committee recognizes that sometimes people feel that is not possible. The Committee will evaluate anonymous complaints in the context in which they are received." The committee agreed we would prefer complaints not be anonymous, but depending on the seriousness and specificity of the complaint, sometimes you have to look at it. Kim suggested looking at it together with the other items in "other topics". We will aim to use MASC's language as much as possible, but adapt it as necessary.

### BDFA - School Councils.

Kim reviewed the BDFA policies of our peer towns. They all set the calendar at the first meeting, principal to set composition of committee within state guidelines (a few had policies that were specific with numerical guidelines), co-chair selected at first meeting, adhere to Open Meeting Law. Differences were meeting frequency (most said monthly, L-S at least 8 times/year, C-C at least 6 times/year). We thought at least 8 times per year would cover it (summer meetings would be a challenge). Our current five times per year is lower than all our peers.

All the other towns have School Improvement Plans delivered at the end of the School Year, rather than in the winter. Kim advocated for it because our current timing keeps the School Council from weighing in. We will make composition up to the principals

subject to state law, borrow from other towns' policies. The committee reviewed wording and made edits for clarification.

Other topics -

We need to take a look through the package of policies surrounding harassment, bullying, Title IX. We reviewed the ones that had been updated by MASC, but with a new superintendent coming in, we might want to have Dr. Easy join us to review these policies. Kim will generate a list of policies, and talk with Richard for his input. This created a discussion about social media, and how it ties into these concerns, and that maybe we need to consider these as well. Kim will ask Richard for his Title IX presentation.

3. Minutes:

Minutes were not yet drafted, and will be reviewed at the next meeting.

4. No matters not anticipated.

Ellen moved to adjourn, Kim seconded. Vote 2-0, ELLEN: YES, KIM: YES. Meeting adjourned at 10:51am

Corresponding documentation:

Draft Policy BDFA

Policy KE

Spreadsheet review of peer towns' BDFA, KE