

**Policy Sub-Committee
Meeting Minutes for April 6, 2023**

Jessica Polizzotti called the meeting to order at 11:25 AM Jessica Polizzotti (“JP”), Erin Gibbons (“EG”), and Michelle Crowell (“MC”) were present for the meeting.

**Review of Policy:
KDBA (Test return)**

JP gave the history of last year’s task force run by MC which included stakeholders throughout the district. Findings were that tests should be returned to students, the Policy SubCommittee feels there should be a formal policy that outlives their tenure. School Committee’s counsel had reviewed the policy and made some revisions. A discussion ensued on the draft language of the policy, and EG asked about copyrighted materials and a discussion ensued regarding them. MC said the proposed policy would not have implications for elementary, and she had not been able to check with the middle school yet, but that she and Dr. Graham had thought it would likely not affect the Middle School.

Public Comment was opened.

A member of the public (John Pierce) stated that students should have every resource to learn, and it is best practice to return test materials, including final exams.

Another member of the public (Jeff Sklar) stated math is formative and builds on prior content, so feedback is essential. He also proposed AP/copyrighted material that cannot be returned by graded for completeness only and not for grading, similar to the AP policy.

The Policy Subcommittee resumed their discussion on policy KDBA.

MC discussed returning unit assessments vs also returning mid-terms and finals, and stated she believes in the policy as proposed. The task force did not propose policy. JP was on the task force, believes in MC’s expertise, understands many districts don’t return mid-year and final exams, and feels comfortable with the policy as proposed. EG voiced her desire to also have mid-terms and final returned.

Both members of the public (John Pierce and Jeff Sklar) were allowed to continue to participate in the meeting because they sat on the task force. They both advocated to return mid-terms and finals as the evidence supports it as a best practice.

MC mentioned other districts don’t return mid-terms and finals citing it’s the way it’s been done for a long time. She said common concerns are test security and the burden to write new questions. MC said changing the policy too much at this point might create too much work too quickly and teachers may not feel supported. JP said the proposed policy is the current practice and to return mid-terms and finals would be new. EG proposed to possibly revisit returning mid-terms and finals in a year.

EG moved to bring draft KDBA for a full vote to the full School Committee, and revisit exclusion of mid-year and final exams from the policy in January 2024. JP seconded.

Voted: JP: yes; EG: yes

KF Facilities: passed over; EG to come with proposals for next meeting

IIB Class size: JP add TCW at 15, provided to her by Dr. Graham

EG moved to add TCW max class size 15 to policy and take to full School Committee for approval. JP seconded

Voted: JP: yes; EG: yes

Minutes approval: JP moved to approve minutes from March 7, 2023, EG seconded. Voted: JP yes, EG: yes.

BDFA and BDFA-E School Council: A discussion whether to have a 1 vs 2 year term ensued. EG proposed allowing remote meetings, to enable Boston resident families to serve. JP raised the policy should have process for sharing School Improvement Plans with the School Committee. Proposed changes to the policy will be brought to the next Policy Subcommittee.

EG moved and JP seconded to adjourn the meeting. Voted: JP yes, EG: yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.