



Policy Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
April 23, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.
Meeting Location: Collaboration Conference Room
454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170

Committee Attendees: Patti McCoin, Anupam Sidhu, Dr. Monica Merritt, Abdul Madyun and Chris Allan

Others Present: John Kava, Josh Patterson, Venkataraman Ananthakrishnan, Lisa Rasmussen and John Johnston

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. Member McCoin welcomed the group.
2. Citizens Comments: It was mentioned that while students have a dress code, teachers do not.
3. The Meeting Minutes from March 12, 2024 were reviewed with two corrections. Page 2, where it reads: Mr. Kava read the current directory information from Policy 8330 STUDENT RECORDS - the words, which states as follows: was added to the end of that sentence. Additionally, an apostrophe was added to the word FOIA'd, where it appears in the minutes (now reads FOIA'd).

One correction was made to the Agenda. Policy 2541 ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL. The correct Policy number is 2451 . The correction was made.

4. Policy Timeline was reviewed by Mr. Madyun
5. Old Business:

5464 - EARLY GRADUATION

This policy is on the agenda for a second read at the Board of Education meeting following this meeting..

7250.01 - RENAMING EXISTING FACILITIES/MASCOTS/LOGOS

The committee discussed adding language to this policy. Questions were raised such as how long information will be maintained and stored. Mr. Kava spoke about different potential categories within the state of Michigan's record retention for schools. The role of the technology department was also discussed. The committee discussed which records could be subject to FOIA. It was suggested that staff and committees are informed as to how long records need to be maintained.

5410 - PROMOTION, PLACEMENT, AND RETENTION

The committee recommends changing language to clarify this policy. It was mentioned that the policy committee's goal is to look at all existing policies and update if necessary. The committee spoke about the second to the last sentence that reads: Following sound principles of research-related to child development and evidence-based best practice, the Board discourages the skipping of grades and the retention of students. It was suggested to remove the dash between research and related.

5420 - REPORTING STUDENT PROGRESS

The committee discussed updating language for clarity. It was determined that this policy does not need any changes at this time.

2451 - ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL

The committee spoke about language that was added to this policy. The added language reads as follows: Students assigned to alternative schools or programs shall be eligible to access extracurricular activities including, but not limited to sports activities, as allowed under applicable Board policy, K-12 Student Handbook and code of conduct, MHSAA rules or other alternative program standards adopted by the District. The committee also discussed out of district students and if the school of choice timeframe would affect them. It was mentioned that school of choice for the alternative school does not follow the same timeline as the other schools. If the alternative high school has too many students from Plymouth-Canton, then a student coming from another district might not be able to attend.

6. NEW BUSINESS

2210 - CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Madyun spoke about minor updates to this policy such as replacing language or removing language that is not needed. The new language is consistent with the current policy. Ms. Rayl and Mr. Tyszkiewicz have both reviewed the updates. The Policy reads as follows: (The updates are noted in italics and underlined)

The Board directs that the curriculum of this District:

- A. provide grade-appropriate instruction on career development in each grade level from kindergarten 12th; (No language change)
- B. Provides instruction in courses required by statute and State Department of Education regulations;
Change language to: Provides instruction in courses required by statute and Michigan Department of Education regulations;
- C. ensures, to the extent feasible, that special learning needs of students are provided for in the context of the regular program or classroom and provides for effective coordination with programs or agencies that are needed to meet those needs that cannot be dealt with in the regular program or classroom;
Change language to: ensures, to the extent feasible learning needs of students are provided for in the context of the general education classroom or program and provides for effective coordination with programs or agencies to provide additional supports to meet the needs beyond the general education classroom or program.

- D. be consistent with the District’s philosophy and goals and ensure the possibility of their achievement; (No language change)
- E. allows for the development of individual talents and interests as well as recognizes that learning styles of students may differ;
Change language to: allows for development of individual talents and interests and recognizes that learning preferences of students may differ;
- F. provides a strategy for continuous and cumulative learning through effective articulation at all levels, particularly of those skills identified as essential and life-role skills;
Change language to: provides a strategy for continuous and cumulative learning through effective articulation at all levels, particularly those skills identified as essential for college, career, and life-readiness;
- G. utilizes a variety of learning resources to accomplish the educational goals; (No language change)
- H. encourages students to utilize guidance and counseling services in their academic and career planning. (No language change)

The committee also discussed the part of the policy that reads:

For purposes of this policy and consistent communication throughout the District, curriculum shall be defined as the courses of study, subjects, classes, and organized activities provided by the school consistent with accomplishing the District’s educational outcomes.

It was suggested to add the word resources to that paragraph to broaden it.

It would read as: subjects, classes, resources, and organized activities

2340 - FIELD TRIPS AND OVERNIGHT TRAVEL

The committee discussed rules associated with field trips as well as clarifying language in the policy. It was mentioned that more information would be helpful in SPA meetings. It was suggested to discuss field trips in the next SPA meeting to give more information on the field trip process. This would meet the duties of the Board as well as the needs of the staff. The policy committee will gather more information and discuss field trips at future meetings.

2370.01 - ON-LINE/BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM

The committee discussed the language in this policy. The following section was questioned:

The District may contract other providers of such programming as:

- A. a provider approved by the Department of Education;
- B. a university

Discussion points included:

- What are other districts using for blended learning?
- It is not believed that the MDE approves vendors or providers.

- There is a state approved catalog (micourses.org) which contains a course catalog for all statewide courses. The Department of Education does not maintain or approve vendors /providers.

- What would a partnership look like with other school districts regarding course sharing?

The committee will continue to look into this and discuss at future meetings.

2625 - PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER / REQUIREMENTS

The committee discussed this policy regarding courses other than the traditional physical education courses to determine if they could be counted as a physical education requirement? This would provide additional flexibility and options for students. Mr. Madyun will talk to the Teaching & Learning department to see if more work has been done with regards to the requirements. The committee will continue to discuss this at future meetings.

It was requested from a Board member to add policy 5610 - EMERGENCY REMOVAL, SUSPENSION, AND EXPULSION OF STUDENTS to the next policy committee agenda regarding questions about the expulsion committees.

7. Future Scheduled Meeting Dates

May 28, 2024

June 25, 2024

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.