School District No. 1J, Multnomah County, Oregon Board Committee Meeting of August 29, 2019

A meeting of the board's Policy and Governance Committee meeting came to order at 10:35 am at the call of Committee Chair Brim-Edwards in the Willamette Conference Room at the Blanchard Education Service Center, 501 N Dixon Street, Portland, Oregon, 97227.

There were present:

Committee Members

Julia Brim-Edwards, Amy Kohnstamm, Rita Moore

Staff and other Attendees

Kara Bradshaw, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education Shanice Clark, Director of Community Engagement Chandra Cooper, Director of Multi-Tiered System Support Kregg Cueller, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction and School Communities Guadalupe Guerrero, Superintendent Carol Hawkins, Senior Director of Employee and Labor Relations Mary Kane, Senior Legal Counsel Liz Large, General Counsel Rachel Lent, Paralegal Brenda Martnik, Chief of Student Support Services Rosanne Powell, Senior Board Manager Dana Riemer, Student Success Program Manager Stephanie Soden-Back, Executive Chief of Staff

Policy for Healthy, Substance Free, Learning Environments X.XX.XXX-P

The Policy for Healthy Substance Free Schools was referred by staff to the Board for its first reading by Brenda Martnik. The group discussed punitive responses to substance use and whether it was clear in the policy that the district plans to address it with support in additional to possible discipline.

It was decided that "Students may receive discipline consequences in conjunction with support and services as appropriate for that student" would be added to the end of the paragraph that begins with "It is not considered self-disclosure". The committee unanimously agreed to refer it to the Board for a first reading.

Board Policy for Professional Conduct Between Staff and Students X.XX.XXX-P

Chair Brim-Edwards discussed what happened in the policy since the last meeting, including being reviewed by Elizabeth Thiel & Joy Ellis from Garvey Schubert Barer. Liz Large went over changes that were made, including two changes that were made as a result of the feedback. Staff will add clarifying language to define each actor as "adult" and then specifying where appropriate staff or volunteer. If not specified as staff or volunteer, adult will be used to represent both staff and volunteers. An updated definition of "Legitimate Educational Purposes", that reflects language used in a similar San Francisco School District policy.

Social media guidelines were discussed. It was mentioned that there is a district wide text program that is in the process of being rolled out. Chair Brim-Edwards requested that we add "District approved platforms or tools". The committee unanimously agreed to refer the policy to the Board for a first reading.

Search and Seizure Policy 4.30.040-P

It was noted that some of the items that have been removed from the policy are included in the Administrative Directive. The difference between when parent contact is needed prior to the search of student's belongings and investigation of the student by school staff or by policy was discussed, including clarifying that staff can, with reasonable suspicion, search student property and interview the student without parental notice, while if the police have been called and would like to interview the student, parental notice would be needed. Director Brim-Edwards would like to use the law as a foundation and then give school context to make the difference clear. It was discussed how long staff should wait to hear back from parents to take action and it was decided that the end of the school day was a reasonable expectation. The time to wait after a parent had been called was left unresolved. Legal counsel will work to see if they can find more information and send some solutions to the board members before the next meeting so that so that the policy is not delayed.

Student conduct and discipline is out for public reading

There was a pretty thorough public comment feedback, especially from the SPED community. To engage with that community, now that school is back in session, the policy will be coming back to committee in order to engage further.

Public Comment

Roger Kurchner: Doing good work on the policy, but encourage the development of a library policies that over direct teachers. Also would like to suggest that the policies and board documents are printed on legal paper with lines and numbers so that it's easier to follow along.

Chair Brim-Edwards adjourned the committee at 10:40 am.

Submitted by:

Kara Lazcano-Huff Confidential Executive Assistant to the School Board