

Educational Policy Committee

Agenda Minutes

September 5, 2023

7:00 - 8:15 pm

The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

Working together to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all

Members: Kyle Fletcher, Alexander Creznic, Amanda Caruso, & Gwen Doak

Other Board Members Present: Rich Ruhlin, Dee Robinson

Staff: Monique Poulin, Christian Elkington, Melissa Williams

Other Staff Present: Doug Hodum

1. Call Meeting to Order - Chair Doak
 - a. Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM
2. Review Committee [Minutes](#) - Chair Doak
 - a. Questions?
 - i. None
3. Updates:
 - a. Staff Workshop Days - Poulin
 - i. Opening Day was focused on connections, welcomes and celebrations. Congratulations to all award recipients (longevity and district awards) and thanks to all involved in making the day happen.
 - ii. The remainder of the two days involved principal and staff directed time, as well as required training.
 - iii. A tour of the district on Opening Day revealed energized and excited school communities.
 - b. Great School Partnership Work - Poulin
 - i. SEL [SEL 101: What are the core competencies and key settings?](#)
 1. Monique shared a video that summarizes SEL and the CASEL framework. She stressed that the SEL Competencies are not a curriculum, that they are a means/strategies to help with instructional delivery and to hone the CASEL Framework Competencies at the same time.
 - ii. MBC 2027

Educational Policy Committee

1. Superintendent Elkington gave an update on the work that is ahead with the Great Schools Partnership to move towards the initial vision for Mt. Blue Campus.
 - a. FCTEC worked with GSP to do a crosswalk with CTE standards and the Maine Learning Results.
 - b. An audit was conducted last year and the information will be shared with this year's team.
 2. This work could lead to both enrichment and efficiency, as well as a stronger connection to student learning and will help students have greater success in all classes that they are taking.
 3. A team of 10-12 is being created at this time with leadership from administrators and teachers as well as teacher and instructor membership.
 4. This will require a financial commitment for the next three years to move the original (2012) vision forward.
 5. How will students from other partner schools be included in our programming? This will be a major consideration.
- c. Attendance Planning Work - Elkington
- i. Over the summer, attendance was a focus for the administrative team. We reduced the number of attendance codes with the hopes of added consistency in application and data collection. A poster for RSU 9 was created noting the specific reasons students can have an excused absence. The kick off document for staff this year noted a focus on attendance and the previously created action steps which support addressing the attendance concern. We are not adding new action steps but focusing on strategic planning work which also supports this area. Our theme is "Every Day in School Matters". This will be a focused effort this year which must include our families.
 - ii. The outcomes are set to work on starting this year with incremental steps each year.
 - iii. There was much discussion with regards to the outcomes set. The approach to addressing absent students will be shared amongst staff members and will be supportive to students and families.
4. [FTC Program Approval for Cooperative Education & "Satellite" Career Exploration Program for SMHS](#) - Melissa Williams/Elkington
- *Motion to approve new programs as presented*
 - Melissa reviewed the proposals and the rationale for the approval process and increased FTC programming.
 - Kyle Fletcher made a motion to approve the two proposals. Alexander Creznic seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
5. Policy Work - Elkington

Educational Policy Committee

- a. [23-24 Policy Work Plan](#)
- b. Policy Folders
 - i. Review (No meaningful changes)
 - 1. [JFC Dropout Prevention/Student Withdrawal from School](#)
 - a. Questions?
 - i. No questions. We will make a note that it was reviewed on 9.5.23 and replace it in the policy folder.
 - ii. Basic Updates and Changes
 - 1. [JEA Compulsory Attendance](#)
 - a. Review
 - i. Very few changes are included in this update. This is in line with the statute.
 - b. Questions?
 - i. None
 - c. Next Steps?
 - i. This will go to the full board for a single reading.
 - iii. Major Updates
 - 1. KE Public Concerns and Complaints
 - a. [Present KE](#)
 - b. [Draft Revision](#)
 - i. Review
 - 1. Suggested wording from MSMA is included in the new version of the policy.
 - ii. Questions?
 - iii. Next Steps?
 - 1. This is a complete rewrite. This will need to go to the board for two readings.
- iv. Brand New
 - 1. RSU 9 does not have these and they are suggested to have
 - a. [BEB School Board Use of Social Media](#)
 - i. Review
 - ii. Questions?

A small side discussion came up around banning cell phones. Presently we don't allow them in PreK-8. Frustrations were shared about their use in grades 9-12 along with trying to find a middle ground as they are mini computers with positive use in some classrooms and are the technology of now and the future.

Educational Policy Committee

Will use Social Media platforms instead of specific names like Twitter.

iii. Next Steps?

This will go to the board for review and a minimum of two meetings.

b. [BHC Board Relationships and Communications with Staff](#)

i. Review

ii. Questions?

iii. Next Steps?

This will go to the board for review and a minimum of two meetings.

c. [CHCAA Student Handbooks](#)

i. Review

ii. Questions?

1. None

iii. Next Steps?

This will go to the board for review and a minimum of two meetings.

d. [FF Naming Rights](#) (needed for future next steps)

i. Review

1. This was reviewed.

ii. Questions?

1. Section E under Guidelines-Language was suggested to have some guidelines on what to expect for naming and recognition. Chris will work on this suggestion.

2. The \$50,000 threshold was changed to \$100,000.

3. There was a request for a draft base set of guidelines or template to be created.

iii. Next Steps?

This will go to the board for review and a minimum of two meetings.

v. Adjust & Remove

Educational Policy Committee

1. [JL Student Welfare](#)
 - a. Removing wording as it is now covered in ACAA
 2. Policy/Wording in [JLC](#) is moving to JL its proper identification code
 3. [JLCA](#) identification is being removed
These adjustments were reviewed and supported.
6. Need to pick a an extra meeting date in Oct for this review
1. [ACAAA Transgender and Gender Expansive Students](#)
 - a. Suggested to meet the third Tuesday of
October-10/17 at 7PM.
 - i. Approved
7. Next Mtg. Oct 3, 2023
8. Adjourned at 8:33PM
9. Future Agenda Items -
- Volunteer Hour expectations for school boards
 - Building Use Discussion
 - Has had many changes over the last ten years
 - Do you want staff to be like nonprofits around custodial cleanup and costs?
 - [KF:](#) Community Use of School Facilities
 - [KF-R1:](#) Community Use of School Facilities - Regulations
 - Phonics, Mystery Science, & Math Book implementation/transition
 - Curriculum Rotation Plan
 - Elementary World Language update
 - Grant Updates:
 - Transitions & Goals
 - Community Schools
 - ESEA
 - ESSER
 - Special Ed.
 - BARR
 - Other?