Board of Education Members Present
Sally Boske, Chair, Sheila Daniels, Bill Grady

Also Present
Barbara Senges, Associate Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, Kathleen F. Bengtson, Administrative Assistant, Lisa Melaven, Food and Nutrition Manager, Mike Pitruzzello, Director of Athletics/Student Activities, and Kristy Byrd, Teacher & Health Administrative Assistant.

Bill Grady asked about an orientation for new board members. Kathy stated we had a bylaw which was to be revised, but was tabled for the Board Members to review at a workshop. It still needs to be addressed. Sheila Daniels requested a list of the policies and bylaws that need to be brought forward to the BOE workshops. Kathy will forward the list to the Policy Committee.

The following policies were discussed.

#5112 Ages of Attendance – The committee had sent this policy forward to the Board at its last meeting. The Board of Education tabled this policy because it had a question about the age reference in the fifth paragraph. Kathy Bengtson called CABE and spoke to Vincent A Mustaro concerning this question. He agreed that in the fifth paragraph we should add the wording (seventeen years of age, effective July 1, 2011).

Mr. Mustaro also explained that in the school years 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 a student sixteen or seventeen years of age can withdraw from school with the consent of the parent or person having control of a child. In the school year 2011-2012 the age would change to seventeen.

As noted in the last Policy Committee meeting, the withdrawal form shall now include an attestation from a guidance counselor or school administrator of the school that the this district has provided the parent or person with information on the educational options available in the school system and in the community. The present forms will be changed and form (b) & (c) will be incorporated to one form.

The Policy Committee recommended this revised policy be brought forward to the Board at its next meeting for its first and final reading. As this is a mandated policy, it will require only one reading.
Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (Student Wellness Policy) — The Board’s initial Wellness Policy was adopted on June 20, 2006. The regulations still need to be put in place. Lisa Melaven, Food and Nutrition Manager, informed the Committee that the State will be reviewing our Food and Nutrition Program on March 15, 16, 18 & 19. The State gave us a checklist of items to be available, which included our Student Nutrition and Physical Activity policy and regulation. As our district is now participating in the Healthy Foods Certification Program, our policy will need to be updated to reflect this program. CABE provided two versions of the new policy. The Committee decided to accept CABE’s first version along with the addition of the first paragraph being taken from CABE’s second version which addressed childhood obesity.

Lisa Melaven, along with Kristy Byrd and other members of the Wellness Committee will be working on the regulations. Barbara Senges stated the regulations should be submitted to her for her approval.

Lisa spoke to her concerns that at certain times teachers are rewarding their students with pizza parties and ice cream and not having the students participate in the lunch program. According to the Healthy Foods Certification Program, the district’s students should receive a nutritious lunch with healthy foods. Sally Boske said she would speak with Superintendent Frechette regarding this policy and concerns about students missing the lunch program. Barbara Senges said she would speak to the principals at the next Admin Council Leadership meeting which will take place on Monday, February 8, 2010. Lisa Melaven will email Barbara Senges to remind her.

Bill Grady asked Lisa Melaven if she has seen a reduction in her lunch numbers. She stated just in a small month to month comparison, but she didn’t want this situation to escalate. Barbara Senges stated overall there has been a decrease in cafeteria sales since we now only sell healthy foods. In the past, we made a lot of money because we sold a la carte items.

Sally Boske asked Lisa Melaven to attend the next Board meeting, February 9th, to be available for any Board member questions. Sally also asked Kathy when she emailed out the policies, she let the Board Members know that Lisa will be available for questions.

The Policy Committee recommended this revised policy be brought forward to the Board at its next meeting for its FIRST reading.

The Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2010 at 9:15 a.m. in the Board Room of the Dr. Alfred B. Tychsen Administration Building

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