Board of Education Policy Committee Members Present:
Sheila Daniels, Chair; William Grady, and Ed McKeon

Also Present:
Ava Hart, Board Member; Michael J. Frechette, Barbara Senges, James Gaudreau, Ann Perzan, Carole Passarelli, Nurse Consultant, Cheryl Gonzalez and Kathleen F. Bengtson, Administrative Assistant.

The following policy was discussed:
#5141.4 – Child Abuse -- Carole Passarelli went over the newest version of the CABE child abuse policy which had been emailed to the committee and participants. She went over this policy line by line.

Discussion took place regarding the specific school staff identified as mandated reporters. Also discussed was how to include the noncertified staff employed by the Board of Education and/or the City of Middletown and assigned to the Board of Education. Ed McKeon feels it is important that noncertified employees in our school buildings are mentioned in the policy.

Attorney Bill Grady clarified that the hot line is now called the DCF Care Line.

It was also noted that the DCF 136 report should be filed in the student’s cumulative health record per the Cumulative Health Records Guidelines Revised January 2012 by the Connecticut State Department of Education.

Attorney Grady also stated the mandated reporter has a shield of protection if his/her report was made in good faith, but the identity of the reporter is not confidential, by the time it gets to court.

The law states training is mandatory. Regarding this training, Barbara said we need to have a look at the number of PD days in the district. You could literally spend one whole day just doing all the required things. We need to put in place a plan where we are going to do all this, but when and how. All of these things have contract issues. It is easier with the web based training, but still needs presenter and Q&A time.

We will need to insert in the policy the training information.

The Policy Committee recommended this Child Abuse policy be worked up as discussed and be revisited at the next Policy Committee Meeting. All members agreed.
#4112.5 – Security Check/Fingerprinting – Not enough time to review this policy. Will be on the agenda for the next Policy Committee Meeting.

The Policy Committee Meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20, 2012, at 8:00 A.M. in the Board Room of the Dr. Alfred B. Tychsen Administration Building.

kfb