MIDDLETOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 31, 2012
Dr. Alfred B. Tychsen Administration Building
8:00 a.m.

Board of Education Policy Committee Members Present:
Sheila Daniels, Chair, Eva Hart, and Ed McKeon

Also Present:
Ann Perzan, Director of Pupil Services, Elizabeth Nocera, Director of Grant Services, Carole Passarelli, Nurse Consultant, and Kathleen F. Bengtson, Administrative Assistant.

The following policy was discussed:

#4147.1 – Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens - Carole Passarelli spoke regarding this OSHA policy. CABE provided its current sample policy which seems to be word for word as our present policy. Carole proposed that the procedures also be kept in the Principal’s Office in each school. She noted that OSHA requires the Bloodborne Pathogens Records be kept for 30 years after employee leaves district. These records cannot be kept with personnel or insurance records, must be kept separately as they are strictly confidential. Human Resources should be doing the major part of the management of this matter. A discussion took place regarding the statement that, “the procedures will be monitored by the Connecticut Department of Labor”. Carole said she didn’t think the Department of Labor comes to monitor the procedures. She will call CABE and ask why that sentence was put in the policy. Elizabeth asked if there was a list of at-risk employees. Carole said she would have to sit with administrators, coaches, etc. to determine the list. The procedures should be part of the employment package. And the at-risk employees should have the opportunity to get the three hep shots. Many different situations have to be addressed in the regulations, which Carole will be drafting for the administration to review.

The Policy Committee recommended this new Policy #4147.1 – Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens be presented to the Board of Education at its next meeting and will require two readings. All members agreed.

#5145.6 – Student Grievance Procedures (Title IX) – Elizabeth Nocera spoke regarding this policy and regulations. Elizabeth said we do not have an existing policy in place. Attorney Chris Chinni has looked at the proposed CABE policy and regulations. She has no problem with policy, but many changes will have to be made to the regulations. Grievance procedures are presently quite restrictive. Felt we were really constraining ourselves. We should review the timeline. It takes a great deal of time to interview students, witnesses, teachers and it goes on and on. Chris Chinni is reviewing the procedures, because CABE suggestions suggest first level as peer mediation. She is not comfortable with that situation. It is noted that Elizabeth Nocera expects to have the regulations ready when this policy is expected to be adopted at its second reading.
The Policy Committee recommended this new Policy #5145.6 Student Grievance Procedures (Title IX) be presented to the Board of Education at its next meeting and will require two readings. All members agreed.

#5144.1 -- Student Restraint and Seclusion — Ann Perzan wanted to let the Policy Committee know that she needed to change the forms for this policy. Even though the forms are not part of the policy, she wanted to explain the changes. At the last meeting, the Policy Committee agreed to send this policy to the Board for its First and Final Reading. The change consisted of removing the word “No” under Parent/Guardian notification. The Policy Committee agreed to the changes to the form.

The next Policy Committee meetings will be scheduled for Tuesday, September 18, 2012, at 8:00 A.M. in the Board Room of the Dr. Alfred B. Tyghsen Administration Building.

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