Board of Education Policy Committee Members Present:
Sheila Daniels, Chair, and Ava Hart

Also Present:
Dr. Patricia Charles, Superintendent, Kathleen F. Bengtson, Administrative Assistant, Lisa Melaven, Director of Food Services, and Marco Gaylord, Director of Fine Art & District Operations

The following policies and regulations were discussed:

Policy #6142.101 School Wellness – Sheila reported at the last District Wellness Committee meeting, this policy was reviewed and asked Wellness Committee co-chair Lisa Melaven an overview of the policy. Lisa noted that the Wellness Committee met recently and Kristy Byrd went over the physical education aspect of the policy. Lisa said we have been following the USDA certification guidelines. This year the District does not have to be reviewed by the State, but it will be required to next year. This year is a good time to update the wellness policy. Dr. Charles would like clarification that we have all the personnel that the State requires for each school.

Dr. Charles suggested maybe the Tools for Schools group could include the wellness aspect in their focus. The District School Wellness Committee presently meets twice a year and next year will be required to meet a minimum of four times a year. The individual schools will need to revitalize their own Wellness Committees and send a representative to the District Wellness Committee, as had been done when this policy was originally mandated. The Policy Committee discussed ways to help Principals get this accomplished. Ava wanted to know if these meetings are recommended or expected. Lisa said the District Wellness Committee meetings are expected. In reviewing the CABE information, Lisa said the Wellness Committee will have to include a student. The membership of the School Wellness Committee should be checked with the regulation to make sure there is a participant from each category.

Dr. Charles will send out email that we will need certain representatives on the Wellness Committee.

Dr. Charles stated we will be putting together questioners for the end of the year and could include a few questions on the wellness. As questions come up, Lisa and Kristy can forward them to Marco for use in these questioners.

There is a state requirement that we send a letter or report to parents every year about our compliance to the wellness policy. Sheila suggested this could be done in a report such as the former Annual Report at the end of the school year. Kathy showed the committee the Annual
Report which was last published in 2009. Pat Charles and Marco Gaylord will discuss how to make this happen.

Marcy Poppel or Enza Macri to put on Admin council agenda how are we going to implement school wellness in each school and we need a student representative from each level.

The Policy Committee reviewed the policy and regulation #6142.101 – Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (School Wellness Policy) from CABE.

Concerning the Policy - The Committee decided to incorporate Middletown’s current policy’s introductory first paragraph into the new CABE policy using Option #2: For districts implementing the healthy food certification program under C.G.S. 10-215f.

Concerning the Regulation – The Committee decided to use the new CABE regulation using the option which implements the healthy food certification under CGS Section 10-215f and that the District DOES allow food and beverage exemptions.

The Committee decided the regulation for the Wellness Committee membership shall include a Board Member, to reflect the inclusion of a Board member since its inception.

The Policy Committee also decided that Candy and Gum (including sugarless candy and sugarless gum) shall not be sold to students on school premises.

Dr. Charles questioned the regulation section pertaining to Professional Development for Teachers and how to implement it. Possibly incorporate into a staff meeting. Marco thinks it could be given to the Physical Education staff, even if it includes just supplying teachers with info. Sheila Daniels noted Kristy Byrd mentioned at the Wellness Committee meeting that she has been contacted to lend support around nutrition and health curricula. Sheila suggested Kristy would be a good contact for staff.

The Policy Committee decided to review the Physical Education portion of this policy and regulation at its next meeting. Kristy Byrd will be invited to attend that meeting.

After Kathy has revised the policy and regulation she will email them to Dr. Charles, who will discuss the Wellness Committee and physical education with administrators.

The Policy Committee discussed Regulations and Dr. Charles suggested we put on the next policy Committee agenda – status on update of regulations.

The Committee did not have time to review Policy #7551 Naming of Facility or any of the policies in the #1000 Series.

The Policy Committee suggested the next policies to review would be:
Further review of Wellness Policy.

Policy #6142.101 – School Wellness Policy – Physical Education section
Policy # 5131.7 – Weapons and Dangerous Instruments
Policy #6173 – Homebound Instruction (requested by Laurie Slade)
Review – 1000 Series
Status – Update on Regulations

The next Policy Committee meetings will be scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2013, at 8:00 A.M. in the Board Room of the Dr. Alfred B. Tychsen Administration Building.

kfb