Board of Education Policy Committee Members Present:

Sheila Daniels, Chair and Ava Hart

Also Present:

Dr. Patricia Charles, Superintendent, Ann Perzan, Director of Pupil Services, and Kathleen F. Bengtson, Administrative Assistant

The following policies and bylaws were discussed.

#5144.1 – Physical Restraints/Seclusion – Ann Perzan spoke to this policy. She said CABE didn’t have everything the new law requires. We will call the State if we have a question on a restraint.

The following changes were proposed to the policy from CABE:

   H. b. Specify that the use of seclusion is not in a behavior intervention plan.

Ann stated employees will require training how to safely restrain a child. The new legislation has broadened the requirements on restraint. She stated we usually have a PPT every 4 to 6 weeks. This now includes the outplaced students. There is so much training the state is mandating now. Makes sense we want to keep our teachers safe. Farm Hill and Spencer School have the programs for students with the most challenging behaviors. We need training for the crisis intervention staff. New law does not state that if there is a restraint that the nurse must be present to monitor the students. We trust our nurses to make that decision regarding safety during a restraint or a seclusion and require that they are called to monitor. Our nurses are part of the school professionals that the law requires. The Nurse supervisor should review this with the nurses when they have their meeting. Hands on training would be beneficial.

The CABE regulation will be used with some minor changes:
Put on 5114.1 (g) Documentation:

   6. notify the Director of Special Education or Supervisor of Special Education that a restraint or seclusion has occurred and that a form has been electronically submitted.

The Committee requested Dr. Charles ask our attorney if we are allowed to require the schools for our outplaced students to use the State Restraint or Seclusion forms?
The Committee discussed the matter and recommended this revised policy be brought forward to the Board at its next meeting for its first and final reading.

#9325.2 Order of Business -- Dr. Patricia Charles requested the Policy Committee to review this bylaw to allow the Board Meetings to run smoother and more efficiently.

She proposed the following changes to the bylaw in section:

VI. Communications
   A. Student Representative
   B. Departments
   C. Board members

Dr. Charles requested an additional change to:

VIII. Report of the Superintendent
   C. MPS District Issues/News to be deleted.

The Committee discussed the matter and recommended this bylaw be brought forward to the Board for its first reading.

The Committee did not have time to address the following policies and will have them added to its next meeting agenda.

#5114 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process
#6115 – Ceremonies and Observances

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at 8:00 A.M. in the Board Room of the Dr. Alfred B. Tychsen Administration Building.

/kfb