Board of Education Policy Committee Members Present:

Sheila Daniels, Chair

Also Present:

Dr. Patricia Charles, Superintendent; Vincent Loffredo, Chairman of the Board of Education; Meg Susi, Appointed Policy Community Member; Christopher Sugar, Community Member and Kathleen Bengtson, Administrative Assistant.

The following policies and bylaws were discussed.

**#4111 – Recruitment and Selection** – After the March BOE regular meeting, this policy was pulled from the April BOE meeting agenda at the request of Chairman Vincent Loffredo to be sent back to the Policy Committee for further examination.

At the meeting, the Committee decided to remove the word "cronyism" off the policy and use the definition and insert the following:

*The Board wishes to avoid the appearance of giving of special treatment, preference, jobs, political appointments, or contracts to people based on their friends, donors, or political cohorts rather than to people based on their abilities or qualifications.*

*On the application form, an applicant for any position in the school district shall disclose any previous relationship with the Superintendent, Administrator or any Board member.*

*The Superintendent and members of the interview team shall insure that the District is in compliance with state and federal law. Manuals and handbooks shall comply with federal law as to the qualifications for instructional personnel. Notice of professional qualifications shall be provided to parents/guardians of students in Title I schools and staffing pattern reviews as required by law shall be conducted annually.*

Dr. Charles requested Michele DiMauro change the language in Applitrack to read:

Please disclose any relationship to a board member, administrator, or supervisor who is currently serving the School District.

*The Policy was reviewed and the Committee recommended it be brought forward at its next meeting for its second reading.*
The Dr. suggested Charles policy for These should Kathy student the individualized child’s medical practitioner, health psychotropic policy, psychotropic The Ann Committee conflict, the required #4118.234 Personnel a first word, clarification to the the one School Human Director BOE the facilities, (i) medical evaluation as part of an initial evaluation or reevaluation, as needed to determine a child’s (i) eligibility for special education and related services, or (ii) educational needs for an individualized education program.

The Board of Education prohibits all school personnel from recommending the use of psychotropic drugs for any student enrolled within the school system. For purposes of this policy, the term “recommend” shall mean to directly or indirectly suggest that a student use psychotropic drugs. The provisions of this section shall not prohibit (A) school health or mental health personnel from recommending that a child be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner, (B) school personnel from consulting with such practitioner with the consent of the parents or guardian of such child, (C) the planning and placement team from recommending a medical evaluation as part of an initial evaluation or reevaluation, as needed to determine a child’s (i) eligibility for special education and related services, or (ii) educational needs for an individualized education program.

The word, Administrators, was also inserted in the personnel section that may recommend a student be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner.

Kathy contacted CABE and they said our current policy on Psychotropic Drug Use (5141.23) should be renumbered #5141.231. The committee agreed.

These Policies were reviewed and the Committee recommended sending to the next meeting for a first reading.

#4147.1 – Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens -- Dr. Charles spoke to this policy and stated that the City of Middletown and the BOE administrators worked together to have the plan in place. Vincent Loffredo questioned where the procedures were located. Dr. Charles stated they were located on our Human Resources Website. Christopher Sugar suggested there be a hard copy in each school, for the purpose of compliance under OSHA rules.

Dr. Charles will follow up and make sure that each school has a hard copy in the nurse’s office. We do have one in our Human Resources Department.

The changes in the policy were:

- the personnel designated to oversee the procedures was changed from the Superintendent to the BOE Director of Facilities and the School Health Supervisor

- clarification where the procedures would be kept.

The Policy was reviewed and the Committee recommended it be brought forward at its next meeting for its second reading.
#5131 – Conduct – Because we have the required Policy #5114 Suspension, this policy is not required and Dr. Charles recommended it be deleted. The present policy was adopted on June 7, 2005 and is now covered under Policy #5114.

The Policy was reviewed and the Committee recommended it be brought forward for DELETION at its first reading.

#5144 – Discipline -- Because we have the required Policy #5114 Suspension, this policy is not required and Dr. Charles recommended it be deleted. The present policy was adopted on June 7, 2005 and is now covered under Policy #5114.

The Policy was reviewed and the Committee recommended it be brought forward for DELETION at its first reading.

#6112 - School Day – Sheila Daniels requested we look at this policy. Dr. Charles stated we had recently changed the regulation and incorporated our present Arrival/Dismissal Schedule. The Committee read the current policy and if it wasn’t updated by CABE agreed to send it to the BOE for readoption. Kathy was to check with CABE on this. (AFTER NOTE: Kathy checked with CABE and there were some small changes to this policy, so this policy will be brought forward to the Policy Committee at its next meeting.)

#6114.6 – Emergency Closings -- The Committee reviewed this policy and decided it was not needed at this time.

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2017.

/kfb