

**Salem Public Schools
Salem School Committee
POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2021**

On January 28, 2021 the Policy Subcommittee held its regular meeting using the Zoom on-line meeting platform.

In Attendance: Ms. Ana Nuncio and Mr. Manny Cruz

Ex Officio Members Present: Mary Manning and Dr. Kristin Pangallo

Members Absent: Mr. James Fleming

Others in Attendance: Dr. Stephen Zrike and Dr. Jill Conrad

Call of Meeting to Order

Ms. Nuncio called the meeting to order at 8:35 am

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Cruz and Ms. Nuncio requested minor changes to the minutes. Ms. Nuncio made a motion to approve the minutes of January 7, 2021. Mr. Cruz seconded. A roll call vote was made.

Mr. Cruz Yes

Ms. Nuncio Yes

Motion carries 2-0

Policy 5222 - Parental Notification of Courses Involving Human Sexuality

Ms. Nuncio explained that the subcommittee had reached a conclusion that notification was only provided in regards to courses, not storytime.

Ms. Nuncio made a motion to approve the policy and has referred Policy 5222 - Parental Notification of Courses Involving Human Sexuality to the School Committee for second reading. Mr. Cruz seconded. A roll call vote was made.

Ms. Nuncio Yes

Mr. Cruz Yes

Motion carries 2-0

Policy 5401 - Hazing

Mr. Cruz stated that under state law there is a difference between bullying and cyberbullying and the subcommittee is adopting both.

Ms. Nuncio made a motion to approve the policy and has referred Policy 5401 - Hazing to the School Committee for second reading. Mr. Cruz seconded. A roll call vote was made.

Ms. Nuncio Yes

Mr. Cruz Yes

Motion carries 2-0

Policy 5411 - Dress Code

Ms. Manning stated that she has forwarded the Family and Student Handbook with the requested changes. Dr. Conrad explained that the changes are more of a concern with the handbook rather than the policy. She said that the handbook was just updated this year. There was a question raised as to why there are separate handbooks (K-5 and 6-12), but Dr. Conrad explained that this was a request by the principals. Dr. Conrad recommends that the handbook be sent with the subcommittee's recommendations to Superintendent Zrike for his review. Ms. Manning asked why the guidelines were different from the handbook to the policy. Dr. Conrad explained the history with Superintendent Smith and her preference to have 2 separate handbooks. It was agreed that this will remain tabled and will be discussed again at the next meeting.

Pandemic Consideration for Students who are Unenrolled

Dr. Pangallo brought forth an issue that was brought to her attention by parents regarding students who have been unenrolled due to the pandemic and who would like to re-enroll in the same school. There is currently no guarantee that they will be able to re-enroll in their original school. This is very difficult at the elementary age and can be very impactful for some students. She has asked if there is any discussion of adapting or changing the current policy. The subcommittee agreed that this needs to be discussed in depth. There was a suggestion to bring this to COW to discuss with the full committee and possibly create a "Pandemic Policy". Questions were asked regarding enrollment and if certain grades would be impacted. Dr. Zrike asked Dr. Conrad to explain the current process of if a student unenrolls then requests to enroll again in the same school.

Deadline for People to Request Interpretation by Noon at School Committee Meetings

Ms. Manning brought up the requirement that required people to request interpretation by noon on the dates of the school committee meetings. She said that she did not feel that it was equitable to impose such an early deadline for Spanish translations where public comment can be submitted up until the start of the meeting. Dr. Conrad explained the logistics of a deadline in order to secure an interpreter and schedule the services on ZOOM. Ms. Manning has suggested eliminating the time requirement or possibly extending the deadline of the requests. In addition, Ms. Manning has recommended publicizing this service (maybe adding information to the newsletters), since we have not had any families sign up as of yet.

The Subcommittee made a decision to meet again on Thursday, February 4th at 8:30 am.

Mr. Cruz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 am. Ms. Nuncio seconded. A roll call vote was made.

Mr. Cruz	Yes
Ms. Nuncio	Yes
Motion carries 2-0	

Respectfully submitted by,

Nancy A. Weiss

Executive Assistant to the School Committee