

**New Milford Board of Education
Policy Sub-Committee Minutes
September 16, 2014
Lillis Administration Building, Room 2**

Present: Mrs. Angela C. Chastain
Mr. David A. Lawson
Mr. Dave Littlefield
Mr. David R. Shaffer

Also Present: Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Joshua Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources

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NEW MILFORD, CT

1.	Call to Order The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Policy Sub-Committee was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Mrs. Chastain.	Call to Order
2.	Public Comment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was none. 	Public Comment
3.	Discussion and Possible Action A. Policies Recommended for Revision and Approval at Initial Board Presentation in accordance with Board Bylaw 9311: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Chastain said she would call the policies individually for discussion. 1. 1331 Smoking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No discussion 2. 4117.41/4217.41 Employee Discipline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Shaffer asked for clarification regarding gambling and Dr. Paddyfote said it referred to gambling on school property. Mr. Shaffer asked if the mail system reference included email and Dr. Paddyfote said it did and that there was also a policy on computer use which gives guidance in that area. 	Discussion and Possible Action A. Policies Recommended for Revision and Approval at Initial Board Presentation in accordance with Board Bylaw 9311: 1. 1331 Smoking 2. 4117.41/4217.41 Employee Discipline

<p>3.</p>	<p>4118.232/4218.232 Smoking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Littlefield asked if this was the policy that was returned to committee from the BOE meeting for additional revisions due to law and Dr. Paddyfote said it was. <p>4. 4118.25/4218.25 Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Shaffer asked if the policy was correct when it stated that the reporters should call in the oral report before notifying administrator. Dr. Paddyfote said this was required; it is designed to avoid any second guessing ahead of time. Ms. Baldelli said DCF wants to speak to the person with first-hand knowledge. Administration is notified soon after the fact. Mr. Littlefield asked how often reporting happens and Ms. Baldelli said reporting happens frequently. A child may say something as a trigger and the reporter is then mandated to report it based on guidelines. DCF then investigates and makes a determination. Mr. Shaffer asked for clarification that the sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention program was not mandatory. Dr. Paddyfote said it will be mandatory by October 2015 and the change is being made proactively. <p>5. 5113 Truancy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Paddyfote said the revision adds another category of excused absences to include students who are absent to visit with a parent or guardian called to active duty or on leave from combat. Mr. Shaffer asked if a student age of eighteen was a factor. Dr. Paddyfote said the definition was of a student 5 – 18 inclusive. <p>6. 5114 Removal/Suspension/Expulsion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Paddyfote said the revision says that 	<p>3. 4118.232/4218.232 Smoking</p> <p>4. 4118.25/4218.25 Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect</p> <p>5. 5113 Truancy</p> <p>6. 5114 Removal / Suspension / Expulsion</p>
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	<p>students grades 9-12 expelled due to firearms cannot have their record expunged before graduation; students K-8 with that violation can request that the record be expunged before graduation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Chastain asked if that appeal would be to the Board and Dr. Paddyfote said it would be to the Superintendent. • Mr. Shaffer distributed a handout regarding the dangers of powdered caffeine and asked if the policy covered dietary supplements such as this. • Mr. Lawson said he would be interested in clarification as well regarding the detrimental use of dietary supplements. • Mrs. Chastain suggested adding wording similar to “any substance used as a drug”. • Dr. Paddyfote said she would ask the attorney for clarification to see if any wording needed to be added or if current wording was sufficient. • Mr. Littlefield asked if brass knuckles were still an issue and Dr. Paddyfote said not recently. 	
7.	<p>5131.6 Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Shaffer said he had the same issue of dietary supplements with this policy and wanted to make sure they were covered. Dr. Paddyfote said she would follow up. 	7. 5131.6 Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco
8.	<p>5131.911 Safe School Climate Plan/Bullying</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Paddyfote said this very encompassing policy had several suggested revisions. 	8. 5131.911 Safe School Climate Plan/Bullying
9.	<p>5141 Student Health Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Shaffer asked if the medical advisor was the school nurse. Dr. Paddyfote said the medical advisor was currently Dr. Hack of Candlewood Valley Pediatrics but that an RFP had just gone out so it was possible that would change in October. • Mr. Shaffer asked how the advisor is used and 	9. 5141 Student Health Services

	<p>whether the nurses called him directly. Dr. Paddyfote said the advisor provides standing orders, and is consulted as issues arise with things like allergy management, viruses and head lice for example. Contact is filtered through Mrs. Olson, the Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services, or Mrs. Holmes, the Nurse Coordinator.</p>	
10.	<p>6111 School Calendar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Paddyfote said a committee had been set up through Education Connection in response to the state's request for a uniform regional calendar. The committee had looked at a start date during the last week of August, professional development in November and February, and three breaks before the mandate was pushed out to 2016. • Mr. Shaffer asked why the state thought this was necessary and Dr. Paddyfote said she thought it was to allow for regionalized transportation etc. • Mr. Littlefield said he thought we had lots of holidays in comparison to other parts of the country and Dr. Paddyfote said many are the result of collective bargaining. 	10. 6111 School Calendar
11.	<p>6142.1 Exemption from Instruction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Paddyfote said these changes are not required until October 2015 but addressing them now gives the district time to build a curriculum for approval. • Mr. Littlefield asked if there were mandated grades and Dr. Paddyfote said no that the district gets to decide when it is appropriate. 	11. 6142.1 Exemption from Instruction
12.	<p>6145.2 Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Paddyfote said changes to this policy represented another unfunded mandate. • Mr. Littlefield asked if this was different from what is being done this year in these areas and Dr. Paddyfote said yes there are additional 	12. 6145.2 Interscholastic / Intramural Athletics

	<p>requirements coming.</p> <p>Mr. Lawson moved to bring Policies 1331, 4117.41/4217.41, 4118.232/4218.232, 4118.25/4218.25, 5113, 5114, 5131.6, 5131.911, 5141, 6111, 6142.1 and 6145.2 to the full Board for approval with clarification to Policies 5114 and 5131.6 regarding caffeine powder and other dietary supplements. Motion seconded by Mr. Shaffer.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Motion made and passed unanimously to bring Policies 1331, 4117.41/4217.41, 4118.232/4218.232, 4118.25/4218.25, 5113, 5114, 5131.6, 5131.911, 5141, 6111, 6142.1 and 6145.2 to the full Board for approval.</p>
<p>4.</p> <p>A.</p> <p>1.</p>	<p>Item of Information</p> <p>Regulation Revision:</p> <p>5131.1 Bus Transportation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Shaffer asked why the high school is referenced in the first sentence. Dr. Paddyfote said the sentence would be removed. Mr. Shaffer asked about the Level I infractions which include eating food and drinking beverages. Dr. Paddyfote said there is discretion as to what is reasonable. 	<p>Item of Information</p> <p>A. Regulation Revision:</p> <p>1. 5131.1 Bus Transportation</p>
5.	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. seconded by Mr. Littlefield and passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m.</p>

Respectfully submitted:


Angela C. Chastain, Chairperson
Policy Sub-Committee