MEW MILFORD, C

New Milford Board of Education Policy Sub-Committee Minutes October 2, 2018

Lillis Administration Building, Room 2

Present:

Mr. J.T. Schemm, Chairperson

Mrs. Tammy McInerney

Mr. Brian McCauley, Alternate

Absent:

Mr. Joseph Failla

Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach

Also Present:

Dr. Stephen Tracy, Interim Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources

1.	Call to Order	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 Mr. Schemm. Mr. McCauley was seated in the absence of Mrs. Faulenbach.	
2.	Public Comment	Public Comment
	There was none.	
3.	Discussion	Discussion
A.	Policies for Review:	A. Policies for Review:
	 Mr. Schemm said this continues the review of the 1000 series. He said they could consider three sides of each policy: they could review and make no changes, make suggestions for revision, or look to delete or combine the policy with another. 	
	1. 1146 Recognition of Students, Citizens, Staff Members	1. 1146 Recognition of Students, Citizens, Staff Members
	 Mr. Schemm said he liked how this policy clearly articulates what the Board does in this area. He said the recognition is nice and pulls the public in as well. Mrs. McInerney noted there was no statute 	

cited and wondered if the policy could be married to another.

• It was agreed not to recommend any changes to this policy and to add the date of review.

2. 1150/1160 Communications with the Public

- Mrs. McInerney thought this was a very important policy in guiding the Board when they are asked questions.
- Mr. McCauley said it served as a good reminder.
- Mr. Schemm noted there were no crosslinks to Board bylaws cited but said that this topic is addressed in that series as well.
- It was agreed to check with Legal to see if one should be added.

3. 1212 School Volunteers

- Mrs. McInerney asked who signed the attached forms. Ms. Baldelli said volunteers sign them when they come in to be fingerprinted and they are administered through her office. She said a volunteer only needs to fill them out again if there has been a gap in their continuous service of more than one year.
- Mr. Schemm suggested Legal be consulted to see if there is a statutory definition of "continuous" that the district should use. If there is one, he would like it spelled out in the policy. He said, depending on the definition, this might also help cut down on the cost of fingerprinting.
- Dr. Tracy noted that #6 seems to state that the form needs to be completed annually. Ms.
 Baldelli said that has not been the practice, and that it would be a huge administrative burden as they have several hundred volunteers per year.
- Mr. Schemm said the money for fingerprinting is budgeted. Ms. Baldelli said it is and the cost is currently \$85.75 per volunteer.

2. 1150/1160 Communications with the Public

3. 1212 School Volunteers

4. 1250 Visits to the Schools

- Mrs. McInerney said if the order of the bulleted list in this policy doesn't matter, she would like to see it reordered with student safety first and orderly process second.
- Mr. Schemm said he would prefer to keep encouraging visits first to emphasize the positive.
- It was agreed to check with Legal to see if there was any reason not to reorder the list
- Mr. Schemm said he would also like to see the last sentence on 1250(a) made more positive.
 He suggested it be changed to "Since we strive to maintain continuity in instruction, while visiting in a classroom, a visitor must not interrupt the class in any way, nor speak to (unless invited to do so) or disturb the students or teacher."

5. 1251 Loitering or Causing Disturbance

 Mr. Schemm suggested this policy could be rolled into 1250 since they are basically on the same topic. Legal will be consulted. If it is okay, then this policy could be deleted.

6. 1312 Public Complaints

- Mr. Schemm said this policy hearkens back to 1150 but is more specifically geared towards complaints.
- Mrs. McInerney said this is very important in helping the Board direct complaints.
- Mr. Schemm asked if other layers should be added, such as the Assistant Superintendent, but Dr. Tracy said he thought it was fine as is.
- Mr. Schemm noted that it only spoke to instruction or learning materials and not other issues such as buses or operations.
- Mrs. McInerney suggested the sentence stop at complaints and the specificity be deleted.
- Legal will be consulted.

4. 1250 Visits to the Schools

5. 1251 Loitering or Causing Disturbance

6. 1312 Public Complaints

	 Mrs. McInerney wondered if this policy in fact precludes teachers from accepting gifts. Mr. Schemm noted that it speaks to not encouraging or accepting those intending to influence. Mr. Schemm noted that there is a piece to the common core of professional responsibility and wondered if there are any ethical guidelines there that should be added here. Legal will be consulted. 	7. 1313 Gifts to School Personnel
	 Mr. Schemm noted that the policy refers to groups performing, "as authorized by the Superintendent's regulations," but he does not see any regulations attached to the policy. He suggested that phrase be removed and "consistent with Board guidelines and related regulations" be inserted instead, since the policies are more Board purview. Legal will be consulted. 	8. 1321 Public Performances by Students
4.	Public Comment • There was none.	Public Comment
5.	Adjourn Mr. McCauley moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. seconded by Mrs. McInerney and passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

J.T. Schemm, Chairperson Policy Sub-Committee