New Milford Board of Education Policy Sub-Committee Minutes December 4, 2018 Lillis Administration Building, Room 2

Present:

Mr. J.T. Schemm, Chairperson

Mr. Joseph Failla

Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mrs. Tammy McInerney

Also Present:

Dr. Stephen Tracy, Interim Superintendent of Schools

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.	
2.	Public Comment	Public Comment
	There was none.	
3.	Discussion and Possible Action	Discussion and Possible Action
Α.	Policies for Review:	A. Policies for Review:
	 Mr. Schemm said this evening will complete the review of the 1000 series. He said a few policies are back after being tabled at the last meeting due to time constraints. He said the committee should continue to consider each policy in light of reviewing and making no changes, making suggestions for revision, or looking to delete or combine the policy with another. 	
	1. 1322 Contests for Students	1. 1322 Contests for Students
	 Mr. Schemm said this policy has been discussed a few times recently. He highlighted the phrase that the contests should be "educationally sound and worthy". Mrs. Faulenbach wondered if there was an accompanying regulation for specifics since the policy provides only general intent. Mrs. McInerney said care should be taken with the use of contests sponsored by outside organizations. Once they are accepted, it is 	RECEIVED TOWN CLERK WAR TOWN CLERK WAR DEC -5 P 3 18

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difficult to have control should the outside organization not follow through. She asked if contests need annual approval. Dr. Tracy said not unless something changes.

 No changes to the policy were recommended. A review date will be added.

2. 1323 Gifts to Students

- Mrs. McInerney suggested that the phrase "and the corresponding administrative regulations providing for awards" be deleted because there is no accompanying regulation.
- The reference to policy 5126 will be deleted because it is not current.

3. 1324 Fund-Raising by Students

- Mrs. McInerney asked about the referenced listing of all fundraising activities that the Superintendent will furnish to the Board.
- Mr. Schemm said this came up last year and a list was distributed with the intent to provide a new one periodically.
- Mrs. Faulenbach said the Board is free to request information at any time. She suggested end of the year might be a good time once the spring fundraising was complete.
- Mrs. McInerney said she thought the list should be for fundraisers happening during that school year.
- Mrs. McInerney suggested that the statement "Students in grades K-5 shall not be asked to solicit outside of their home" be changed to reflect that they should only solicit to people they know.
- Mr. Failla said he thought the wording was fine as is since, it says they "shall not be asked" so it is at parental discretion.
- No changes to the policy were recommended. A review date will be added.

4. 1325 Advertising and Promotion

 Mr. Schemm said this policy was last reviewed in conjunction with the turf fields.

2. 1323 Gifts to Students

3. 1324 Fund-Raising by Students

4. 1325 Advertising and Promotion

- Mr. Failla asked how the turf field advertising program was going.
- Mrs. Faulenbach said she attended the last turf field committee meeting. They have a form and flyer that advertise the program and it is on the high school website. There is only one sign now on the field. They discussed ways to get more notice of the opportunity out to the community.
- Mr. Schemm noted that this policy has a regulation to go with it that was adopted in September 2017. He said the regulation has legal references but the policy does not. He suggested that legal be consulted to see if references should be added to the policy as well.

5. 1326 Solicitations by Staff Members

• There were no issues with this policy. A review date will be added.

6. 1330 Use of School Facilities

- Mr. Schemm said there are a number of forms that accompany this policy.
- Mrs. Faulenbach said they are reviewed frequently as the use of our buildings change with time and fees are adjusted.
- It was noted that Facilities Manager should be changed to Director.
- Mr. Failla referenced the requirement for a
 police officer or fireman if the expected
 attendance is over 100. He asked if that was a
 random number or tied to some regulation. It
 was suggested to check with legal.
- Mrs. Faulenbach noted there was somewhat contradictory language in that passage too with the words "may" and "are".
- Mr. Failla asked if the form for the high school auditorium is still prepared in quadruplicate.
- On page d, letter i, Mr. Failla asked if there is a minimum amount of insurance that a renting organization must have and if the renter is required to list the school as an additional insured on their policy.
- Mr. Schemm asked that it be checked to see if the reference to public act 97-290 is still current.

5. 1326 Solicitations by Staff Members

6. 1330 Use of School Facilities

7. 1331 Smoking

- Mrs. Faulenbach noted that vaping is included here.
- It was noted that the second sentence is not complete. Consensus was to remove it, since it is not necessary to the policy.
- Mr. Schemm said vaping implements were added to drug paraphernalia definitions the last time this topic was addressed in the 5000 student series. He said the Board can't change the statutory definitions but can adjust internal consequences for use.
- Mr. Failla noted that strict enforcement is difficult right now because use is so prevalent.
 He said administrators sometimes must pick their battles.
- Mrs. Faulenbach said she also hears comments to the effect of why have a policy if you are not going to enforce it. She said she thinks it is a larger discussion for the future.
- Mr. Failla said it may come down to more education on the topic in schools, similar to the work that was done against smoking.
- Mr. Schemm asked that it be checked to see if the reference to public act 14-76 is still current.

8. 1350 Senior Citizens' Benefits

- Mrs. Faulenbach noted that the Senior Center lets seniors know about this benefit and they help distribute the passes.
- Discussion took place about removing the specificity to age but consensus was to leave the policy as is. A review date will be added.

9. 1411 Relations with Police Authorities

- Dr. Tracy noted a typo in the second paragraph.
- Mr. Failla said he had a problem with police questioning students in school without parental notification and/or administrator presence. He said the police should follow school policies.
- Mrs. Faulenbach asked that legal be consulted to see if the school is allowed to mandate to law enforcement that parents be present.

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- Mr. Schemm said it can be further complicated by using school resource officers to question.
- Mrs. Faulenbach said the district has an MOU regarding school resource officers that gives some guidelines.
- Dr. Tracy said the general rule is to notify parents that questioning is coming unless the situation is urgent or life threatening and that an administrator should be present. He said it is important not to criminalize what may be more likely viewed as school misbehavior.
- Mrs. McInerney said it is important that students know administrators are there for them.
- Mr. Schemm agreed, citing the "in loco parentis" role of school personnel.
- Dr. Tracy said he has begun a dialogue with the new Chief of Police for the town and this will be a good discussion to have with him.

10. 1412 Fire Department

• The reference to policy 6114 will be corrected to 6114.3.

11. 1430/1440 State and Federal Aid

- Mr. Schemm noted the use of two numbers for this policy, and asked for clarification as to why. He wondered if this policy was necessary.
- Mrs. Faulenbach said it does describe the grant approval process.
- Mr. Schemm said that was a good point because the Board does have financial oversight.
- Mrs. Faulenbach said it could sometimes be philosophical as well in that it may not be a type of grant, or from a particular organization, that the Board wishes to accept.
- Mr. Schemm said he finds the full paper copies of the grants that the Board receives unnecessary. He suggested a simple summary instead with an electronic link to the full grant should a Board member wish to review it.

12. 1620/1640 Relations with Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

10. 1412 Fire Department

11. 1430/1440 State and Federal Aid

12. 1620/1640 Relations with Private Schools, Colleges

	Mr. Schemm noted two descriptive numbers are used for this policy, similar to the previous policy, and he would like clarification.	and Universities
	13. 1700 Possession of Firearms on School Property Prohibited	13. 1700 Possession of Firearms on School Property Prohibited
	 Mr. Schemm said this policy was reviewed recently when state motor vehicle inspectors were authorized. The revision came from legal. Mr. Failla asked for clarification as to whether the policy allows off duty police officers, state troopers, and/or retired police officers to carry a weapon on school grounds. 	
4.	Public Comment	Public Comment
	There was none.	
5.	Adjourn	Adjourn
	Mrs. Faulenbach moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. seconded by Mr. Schemm and passed unanimously.	Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

J.T. Schemm, Chairperson Policy Sub-Committee