



Policy Subcommittee Special Meeting

Monday, July 17, 2023 5:45 PM

Board Meeting Room
Administrative Offices
137 B Glenwood Road
Clinton, CT 06413

Purpose of the Policy Subcommittee: Reviews and updates Board policies and regulations based upon recent legislation and models provided by legal counsel. Recommends or reviews policies as necessary to respond to locally important topics as they arise.

Attendance Taken at 5:30 PM.

Jason Adler: Present
Erica Gelven: Present
Michael Hornyak: Present
Alan Samet: Present
Jack Scherban: Present

1. Opening Exercises

A. Roll call

Also in attendance was Superintendent M. O'Donnell.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

All in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance.

2. Discussion re: Non-Morgan Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities

M. O'Donnell gave an overview of the Board's previous discussion related to current practices regarding eligibility for athletics and extracurricular activities at Morgan and Eliot. Currently, only students enrolled at Morgan are eligible to participate. The Board has been investigating the legal implications and possible approaches in consideration of broadening eligibility for students who are not enrolled at Morgan. This includes examining the CIAC policy for state-authorized schools that do not offer athletics and the ability for those students to be allowed to participate in home school athletics. Clarification was provided about the potential impact of this approach on school and athletic operations and management, as well as the categories of students to whom it would apply. The board reviewed legal aspects and options for various categories of students who attend other schools, such as private schools, technical schools, vocational-agricultural schools, magnets, and charters. In addition, the Board explored and considered the idea of allowing non-Morgan students to participate in extracurricular clubs and activities and some of the legal aspects that would be required if the Board wanted to explore this option.

The general consensus of the committee was to maintain the policy as it currently stands, but there was some interest in exploring further with the Board's legal counsel if there could be limitations placed on the participation in extracurricular activities without creating liability and discrimination concerns. Superintendent O'Donnell and Board Chair E. Gelven will pursue these questions and then determine the next step in the process.

3.General Discussion

M. O'Donnell noted there are a few changes in legislation that will have a direct impact on schools. These include changing the exit criteria from special education, requiring financial literacy of all students, revising teacher evaluation plans, and changes to the bullying and safe school requirements. We are awaiting an update and overview from our attorneys, as well as recommended updates to our policies. Once we have that information, we will set the schedule for our policy work.

4.Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by M. O'Donnell