

Harvard Public Schools - School Committee, Policy Subcommittee

Approved meeting minutes

Date: 10/12/2021

Members present: Abby Besse, Suzanne Allen, Linda Dwight

Members absent:

Others present:

Location: Remote meeting via Zoom

Meeting convened at: 10:30

Agenda:

1. Public comment - None
2. Minutes Approval
 - a. Approved 9/12 minutes with no edits.
 - b. 9/14 minutes were not approved as a piece was missing due to technical error and Abby will fix them and bring them back at the next meeting.
3. Policy Calendar Review:
 - a. Subcommittee revised the current Policy Calendar Review to continue reviewing J policy in the 2022-23 academic year. J policy was to be completed this year but COVID policy has taken priority and as a result the J policy review has been stalled.
 - b. It was also noted that many of the newly revised policies are not included on the district website and we will need to compare what is on the website to the policies that we have edited and/or eliminated recently. Abby will begin work on this.
4. Covid Policy Review:
 - a. Volunteer Vaccine Requirement - Dr. Dwight drew up and presented a new section to HPS volunteer policy that would require volunteers, field trip chaperones, and presenters to provide proof of vaccination prior to entering the school building. The full committee will deliberate and vote in the 10/12 meeting.
 - b. Mask Policy - Subcommittee continued discussion regarding making masking optional at Bromfield. It was agreed that certain metrics such as case rates in the community and school (less than 3% positivity rate), vaccination rates among students and staff (currently 80% set by the state), participation in weekly testing (85% was agreed on) must be met before masking can be optional. The date of January 18, 2022 was tentatively set for these benchmarks to be achieved before

optional masking to be considered. The full committee will deliberate and provide feedback at the 10/12 meeting.

5. Dress Code:

- a. Dr. Dwight reported on her meeting with 11th and 12th grade health classes where she presented our current dress code and the work and changes that Policy Subcommittee and SC has made. She solicited the students thoughts and opinions regarding the current dress code and implementation and changes that they would like to see made. Dr. Dwight shared this information with the subcommittee.
- b. Subcommittee then revised the current dress code to reflect the recommendations of the students and feedback from the community as well as more thinking from the subcommittee. The newly revised dress code will be brought to the full committee on 10/12 for deliberation and vote.

Adjourned: 12:25 pm

Next meeting: 10/18 at 10 am

Minutes: Abby Besse