



POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mike McDonough, Deputy Superintendent
Thursday, July 25, 2024, 9:00 AM Central Office

Hilliard City School District
Operations Department

Committee Members

Brian Perry, Board of Education
Kelley Arnold, Board of Education
Melissa Swearingen, Treasurer/CFO
Mike McDonough, Deputy Superintendent
Jill Abraham, Assistant Superintendent
Stacie Raterman, Communications Director
Herb Higginbotham, Director of Elementary Education
Jacob Grantier, Director of Secondary Education

Jamie Lennox, Special Education Director
Hilary Sloat, Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Matt Middleton, Principal Hilliard Darby HS
Katherine Hueter, Principal Hilliard Weaver MS
Matt Trombitas, Principal Hilliard Station Sixth Grade
Kevin Landon, Principal Avery Elementary
Monica Campana, Principal Washington Elementary
Angie Rader, HEA Representative

SUMMARY

This committee meets quarterly each school year. One of the objectives of this committee is to study each issue thoroughly making sure we have appropriate policies that reflect the mission and vision of the Hilliard City School District.

The Policy Review Committee considers all proposed new policies, revisions of current policies and/or rescinding of a current policy before being presented to the Superintendent for submission to the Board of Education. Two readings at two separate meetings shall normally be required before a new or revised policy may be adopted. Action to adopt will take place at a subsequent third meeting. However, the Board does have the option of voting for adoption at the second meeting.

The following is a summary of the issues and policies discussed at the meeting on July 25, 2024.

Public Participation

None

Review of Policies/Regulations/Exhibits – as Requested by District Administration

1. GBIA (Also IG DFA) – Online Fundraising Campaigns/Crowdfunding

This discussion was regarding policy GBIA and the inclusion of crowdfunding for support organizations with some guardrails in place. Three versions of the policy were presented, with the yellow version from Julie Martin being favored for its comprehensiveness. Discussions focused on the need for a streamlined approval process for crowdfunding activities, with considerations for which groups within the district would be allowed to participate. Attention was given to the distinction between district employees and booster groups in fundraising activities, highlighting the importance of transparency and accountability in fundraising efforts. Concerns were raised about potential gray areas and the need for clarity in delineating the purpose of fundraising activities. The impact of the policy on fundraising practices within the district, including accountability for funds raised and ensuring alignment with organizational goals, was emphasized during the discussions.

POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE - SUMMARY

Thursday, July 25, 2024

Ms. Arnold suggested we table this for the time being. If the goal is to keep the current restrictions in place for personnel and just define and clean up what our language is for our boosters and PTO groups, then we need to shift that to a different policy, perhaps.

No action was taken on policy GBIA.

2. JN – Student Fees, Fines and Charges

We have been offering the technology protection plan for several years now, initially waiving the cost for students on free lunch. We are now proposing to extend this waiver to students on reduced lunch as well. This means that students on reduced price lunch will receive the technology protection plan free of charge. However, this provision does not apply to pay-to-participate fees for athletics or other programs. It is important to monitor this change and consider further fee waivers for students on reduced lunch in the future.

The committee agrees that this change is necessary and beneficial for students in need.

3. JEFB-R – Released Time for Religious Instruction (***New Regulation***)

JEFB-R is a new proposed regulation related to released time for religious education programs. The goal of the regulation is to streamline the process for programs seeking to start a release time for religious education program. It is important to follow specific timelines and submit proposals in advance to avoid surprises or any issues in the future. The regulation aims to establish clear launch points for programs and hold them accountable for the students' safety and liability. While working with legal counsel, we did modify our MOA to specify that the group is responsible for all aspects of their operation.

During the discussion, Mr. Perry pointed out a wording issue in the proposal and provided a revision which has been made. Regulations and exhibits are not required to go through the whole policy review cycle. Mr. McDonough said his plan is to update the Board in its entirety and add the regulation to the policy manual shortly thereafter. Once this goes into our manual, it will probably live on our website as well, under the link for Released Time for Religious Education Information for Sponsoring Organizations.

Review of Policies/Regulations/Exhibits – OSBA JUNE 2024 PDQ

1. IKF – Graduation Requirements

The recommended changes for this policy have zero impact on us. One of the changes is updating Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW). Then, under #5 with financial literacy requirements, it is adding the statement around AP Microeconomics or AP Macroeconomics to satisfy that, which we already state within our program of studies.

The committee agrees with this revision.