

Present: Mary Storrs, Court Booth, Laurie Hunter

Also Present: Dorothy Presser (MASC)

1. Mary Storrs called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM and noted the meeting is being recorded.
2. The first order of business was to approve the April 26, 2018 and September 6, 2018 minutes. Minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Policies Reviewed:

File: IMB – Teaching about Controversial Issues/Controversial Speakers – This Policy was reviewed and approved on October 9, 2018. The Social Studies teachers had concerns with the Policy as approved. They were under the impression that it was a brand new policy. They reviewed the policy language which was the language from MASC and compared it with some of the other local districts and saw that the language was tempered a bit. After reviewing the language from the other districts the Policy Subcommittee recommended using the language in Acton-Boxborough’s #3 which now reads “The discussion of these issues in the classroom should be objective and scholarly with emphasis on respectful analysis of differing points of view. Teachers are expected to encourage an environment that is supportive of all views”, and changing our #4 to read “Teachers are expected to facilitate a balanced discussion of these issues. Changes will be made and the Policy will be brought back to the School Committee for approval.

File: JF – School Admissions – After a lengthy discussion the Policy Subcommittee decided that this Policy needs strengthening as to admissions and proof of residency. Laurie will work on a draft for the Subcommittee.

File: JFABC – Admission of Transfer Students – We currently do not have this policy. This policy is required under Chapter 12, Section 11 of the Acts of 2010 as it pertains to charter schools. The Policy will be brought to the School Committee for approval. The Subcommittee recommended taking out “may have certain graduation requirements waived, and may make-up certain graduation requirements”. The Policy will be brought to the School Committee for a first reading.

File: JFABB – Admission of Exchange Students and JFAB (which we do not have) – Laurie will research these policies.

File: JFABD – Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services – There were no changes in this Policy with the exception of adding the new legal references. The Policy will be brought to the School Committee for a first reading.

File: JFABE – Educational Opportunities for Military Children - This is a new Policy. The Policy Subcommittee recommended adopting MASC’s policy and bringing it to the School Committee for a first reading.

File: JFABF – Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care – This is a new Policy. After review is was noted that the last sentence in the second paragraph does not make sense as written. Dorothy Presser will check and get back to the Subcommittee.

File: JFBB – School Choice – After review the Policy Subcommittee recommended using MASC’s policy. The Policy will be brought to the School Committee for a first reading.

File: JHD – Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance – After review the Policy Subcommittee recommended holding this for the next meeting.

4. Public Comments:
None

5 The next three meetings of the Policy Subcommittee will be December 6 starting at 10:00 AM. The meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Leona Palmaccio

Approved: 12/6/18