

Present: Laurie Hunter, Dorothy Presser (MASC), Alexa Anderson, Fatima Mezdad

1. Ms. Mezdad called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM. Roll call attendance was taken: Anderson, present; Mezdad, present.
2. Vote to Approve Minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Mezdad, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to approve the meeting minutes of 2.25.21. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Mezdad, aye.
3. Policies Reviewed:

JH – Searches and Interrogations – Dr. Hunter stated that she would reach out to legal for advice on this policy.

JJ – Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Activities – The subcommittee agreed that this policy could be brought to the School Committee for a 1st reading because it mirrored MASC’s policy.

JJA – Student Organizations - The subcommittee agreed that this policy could be brought to the School Committee for a 1st reading because it mirrored MASC’s policy.

JJE – Student Fundraising Activities – After discussion, the subcommittee agreed that this policy could be brought to the School Committee for a 1st reading.

JJF – Student Activity Accounts – After comparing the current policy to MASC’s version, the subcommittee agreed to add additional wording to match MASC’s version. A motion was made by Ms. Mezdad, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to update the current JJF policy to match MASC’s version updated in 2018. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Mezdad, aye.

JJIB – Interscholastic Athletics – After reviewing the policy and cross references, the subcommittee agreed to add policies JLA and JLCA as cross references. A motion was made by Ms. Mezdad, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to update JJIB to include references to JLA and JLCA. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Mezdad, aye.

JJIF – Athletic Concussion – The subcommittee discussed the fact that this policy needs to be reviewed regularly every two years and Dr. Hunter stated that she would check in with the Athletic Director to review what he currently submits, suggesting the policy be brought back after she reviews it with the Athletic Director and lead nurse.

JJIF-R – Athletic Concussion Information – Dr. Hunter suggested that the subcommittee also bring this policy back for discussion after she reviews it with the Athletic Director and lead nurse to make sure the district is in full compliance.

JJ-E – Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Activities – Ms. Presser noted that a “-E” policy signifies an exhibit to a policy, noting that this policy does not exist in the MASC manual. Ms. Anderson noted that the subcommittee was going to look at this policy against Title 9 and review it to see if it was outdated. The subcommittee discussed removing the policy from the manual or adding several cross references and agreed to keep it and add cross references. Dr. Hunter stated that she would follow up with legal on this policy to be sure it is updated correctly.

JJG – Contests for Students – Ms. Presser noted that this policy is not in the MASC manual, but that it is consistent with other districts that do have this policy. After discussion, the subcommittee agreed to add language around approval by the building principal. A motion was made by Ms. Mezdad, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to update policy JJG to include “the involvement in contests shall be approved by the building principal.” The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Mezdad, aye.

JFABB – Admission of Exchange Students – Ms. Mezdad noted that the School Committee sent this policy back to the Subcommittee to discuss the language requirement, application process and final permission. Ms. Anderson noted the wording of “proficient” that was mentioned in reference to the language requirement and Ms. Mezdad

stated that she was comfortable using the word “proficient”. The subcommittee discussed possible language around not providing ELL (English Language Learner) services. Dr. Hunter suggested getting legal counsel to see what is appropriate to use in the policy. The subcommittee discussed what services the district would be bound to once accepting the students.

Regarding the 2nd paragraph of the policy, Ms. Presser noted her concerns around this program and other programs like School Choice or METCO, in which the School Committee has no authority to talk about individual students. She stated that if the School Committee has the opportunity to approve, it also has the opportunity to disapprove, questioning what parameters the School Committee would use to make a choice. She suggested that the School Committee stay at the governance level and set parameters, but not get into the level of individual students. Ms. Anderson noted the concern of a School Committee member around the ability to pause the program based on the wording in the 1st paragraph. Ms. Presser noted that some districts do limit the number of exchange students that can be admitted to the district. Ms. Mezdad noted that she would like this policy to stay in place because it was similar to the School Committee approving staff children requests and Ms. Presser stated that she is surprised the union allows this individual student approval, noting that it may have FERPA (Federal Education Records Privacy Act) issues. Dr. Hunter noted that the School Committee is contractually obligated to accept staff requests for their children to attend the district. The subcommittee agreed to also seek legal counsel around the staff requests as well as the Admission of Exchange Student policy.

A motion was made by Ms. Mezdad, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to adopt policy files: JJ, JJA and JJE. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Mezdad, aye.

4. Adjournment. A motion was made by Ms. Mezdad, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Mezdad, aye, and the meeting adjourned at 11:31 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Erin Higgins

Approved: 10.28.21