

# School Administrative District No. 53

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**Excellence in Education**

Michael A. Gallagher  
Superintendent of Schools

## Policy Committee

Minutes

9/22/09

Members in attendance: R. Williams, S. Nolan, Special Education Administrator S. Shorey and Superintendent Gallagher

Item 1. Review Policy Committee Responsibilities – Mrs. Williams asked the committee whether or not they had any additional recommendations for the Policy Committee responsibilities. S. Nolan indicated that she felt as though the policy committee should include the development, reviews of and modification to the procedures of each of the policies. Mrs. Williams then asked about whether the committee thought it should add the responsibility of researching and clarifying policy issues when questions arise. Mrs. Williams also indicated that she would prefer to change the formatting and clarify some information in the concluding two paragraphs of the Policy Committee’s responsibilities form. Superintendent Gallagher will modify the last two paragraphs based on Mrs. Williams’ recommendations. He will also make the other recommended changes to the policy committee responsibilities for review at the next policy committee meeting.

Item 2. Policy discussion and review of policy 9.40, Dropout Prevention - This is a new policy. Mrs. Shorey had provided the board with this new policy for consideration. Modifications made to the policy by the committee included striking the word “school” from the first line and adding the word “graduation” at the end of the last sentence of paragraph one.

In paragraph two “Pre” added in front of the word “kindergarten” and an “s” was added to the word “problem” in the first sentence and in the second sentence of paragraph two.

In paragraph three the word “will” in the first sentence was changed to “shall”. It was also suggested that the first sentence under Committee Membership be modified by placing a comma after the word members, and adding “but not limited to:” after the word members. Section F, G and H were all modified in the same fashion by changing the word “selected” to the word “listed” in each of the three statements.

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No other modifications were made to the policy. It will come before the board at the October 5 board meeting for its first reading.

Policy 9.41, Alternative Education Programs is also a new policy. Modifications included striking the word “school” from the first line, and deleting the words “appear to” in the second line of the first sentence of the first paragraph. Near the end of the first paragraph the phrase “along with a highly structured academic experience” was moved to the end of the sentence. Other modifications to policy 9.41 included changing the words “will seek to” in the third paragraph, first line to the word “shall”, striking the word “appropriate” in the first line and adding after the word academic “experience which meets state standards” and delete “social and vocational” from the second line of that sentence. No other modifications were made to the policy. It will come before the board at the October 5 board meeting for its first reading.

Policy 9.42, Free and Appropriate Public Education is also a new policy. Modifications were to strike the word “school” from the first line, and to include a colon after the word “regulations” in the first sentence. No other modifications were suggested, and this policy will be brought to the October 5 board meeting for its first reading.

Policy 11.09, Model Procedure on Parent Involvement with Special Education is not a new policy. Modifications were made to the policy prior to the committee’s review. The board agreed with the modifications and suggested that the two set aside statements regarding parent participation in consultation be denoted as A and B, and that A be modified to include “a child’s” prior to word “parents” in the first line, and that we include “guardians” as well as parents. One additional modification was suggested to add the word “and” at the end of the first section labeled A. No additional modifications were suggested. This policy will be brought to the October 5 board meeting for its first reading as a revised policy.

Being no further business the Policy Committee adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Gallagher