

Policy Committee Meeting
Central Office – Library
August 6, 2018
MINUTES

Present: R. Deakin, E. DeCotiis (arrived at 4:06 p.m.), A. Dube, A. Payeur

Also Present: N. Carlow, T. Hustus, M. Roy, P. Penna

Recorder: Trevor J. Hustus

Chairman Alan Dube called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

JLFA — Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and Response (This is a new required policy)

This policy is required by law and needs to be rushed as it must be implemented before the start of the 2018-2019 school year. This will go to First Reading at the Board meeting later tonight. The committee went through each section of the policy.

The Department of Education was developing curriculum work for PreK-5, this developed into strengthened reporting standards as mandated by the Maine Legislature. In order to meet the law in time, the committee came to a consensus to expedite the PreK-5 reporting standards and revisit higher grade levels as earliest as possible. The Superintendent is responsible for designating an agent to respond to concerns.

Ms. DeCotiis brought comparisons between JLFA and JLF on the reporting structure. The chain of reporting will be clarified. There will be training for staff to train educators and administrators in the new law and policies. There will be online resources available to school personnel regarding the law. Staff must be trained every four years on reporting and response mechanisms. Pursuant to state law and policy, parents have the right to opt their child out of whatever aspects of curriculum the parent disagrees with. There were concerns with the mandate to educate students on accurate body terminology, starting with Pre-K.

Questions:

- Mr. Deakin raised a question about consistency with other mandated reporting laws and policies.
- A concern was raised to implement this policy among higher grade levels as well.
Answer: Abuse concerns at a higher grade level will go to a Counselor who will take care of the information and eventually a report is made to the Assistant Superintendent and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Mr. Arthur Payeur made a motion; seconded by Mr. Robert Deakin:
to send a draft copy of policy JLFA for first reading at tonight's (August 6, 2018) regular meeting of the MSAD 6 Board of Directors. **VOTED: "Yes," Unanimously**

Mr. Arthur Payeur made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ellen DeCotiis:
To adjourn at 4:26 p.m. **VOTED: "Yes," Unanimously**