

Salem Public Schools – Salem School Committee
POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2023

On January 20, 2023 the Policy Subcommittee held its regular meeting in person at 29 Highland Ave., Rm. 227, Salem, MA.

Members In Attendance: Ms. Beth Anne Cornell, Ms. Mary Manning, Mr. Manny Cruz

Others In Attendance: Superintendent Dr. Stephen Zrike

Call of Meeting to Order

The meeting is called to order at 10:37AM and Ms. Cornell takes roll calls.

Mr. Cruz	Present (virtually), Mr. Cruz joins meeting in person at 11:10AM
Ms. Manning	Present
Ms. Cornell	Present

Ms. Cornell takes a vote to approve the past meeting minutes held on December 2, 2022 and December 16, 2022. Ms. Manning notes we should wait until Mr.Cruz is present for all Policy subcommittee members to vote on approving the past meeting minutes.

Mr. Cruz	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Ms. Cornell	Yes

Continue discussion of 6504 Naming of Schools

Ms. Cornell notes the PTO/PTA will take reasonable steps to name the school.

Superintendent Dr. Zrike notes to add staff to the policy including parents and guardians. Dr. Zrike also asks if you are not a Salem resident, what would the policy state in this scenario.

Ms. Cornell notes you can say a former resident of Salem Public Schools.

Mr. Cruz asks if the policy can state “explicitly shall be consistent with Salem Public Schools policies equity statement.

Ms. Cornell makes the edit to the policy that Mr. Cruz suggests.

Ms. Cornell notes Mr. Cruz is en route to attend the meeting in person, they will wait until his arrival to vote bringing Policy 6504 to the full committee.

Ms. Cornell makes a motion to approve to bring Policy 6504 to the full committee once Mr. Cruz arrived.

Mr. Cruz	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Ms. Cornell	Yes

Discussion of Amendment to Policy 3601 Student Transportation Services

Dr. Zrike notes we are having problems with bus riders at this time due to not being able to track how many students are on each bus. They may seem full but in fact are not full buses. Vanessa, from the transportation department, is seeking support from the Policy subcommittee to make corrections to the transportation hand book.

Ms. Cornell asks Superintendent Dr. Zrike for an update.

Dr. Zrike notes Vanessa is working on using a tracking system so we have data and record of how many students are on each bus.

Vanessa from the Transportation Department joins the meeting at 11:17AM.

Ms. Cornell shares her concerns with Vanessa from the Transportation Department. Ms. Cornell states we need to have accurate representation by using the Wayfinder tracking system.

Mr. Cruz notes there has to be a process in place.

Vanessa notes Wayfinder can pull a record. Right now students sometimes pass their bus passes to one another. If a student is a part of the Boys and Girls Club, they will take a different bus to get there.

Ms. Manning notes we may not have to do disciplinary work.

Mr. Cruz notes an urgent meeting with Personnel. Mr. Cruz also states an MOU to perhaps settle on a rate and address capacity issues. Mr. Cruz notes the State is reimbursing fully for the number of homeless students. As of right now the total number of homeless kids that we transport is currently 65 out of the district.

Ms. Cornell would like wayfinder data before developing a Policy.

Ms. Cornell also notes to keep staff with a contract with NRT.

Mr. Cruz notes the flexibility to sustain current staff.

Ms. Cornell notes to table this policy until we have wayfinder with additional data.

Continue review of 1000 series - Community Relations

Ms. Cornell begins discussion of Policy 1504 - Visitors.

Dr. Zrike notes parents taking tours of each school as an opportunity to see classrooms and meet teachers.

Ms. Manning notes in the past, she wanted parents to understand there was an open door policy so they were aware they could arrive at a school for a tour any day, any time.

Dr. Zrike notes it may be best to take tours and visit classrooms if the teachers are available at that time.

Mr. Cruz notes perhaps school leaders can set up shadowing for parents.

Ms. Cornell notes to change guests to parents/caregivers in this policy. Committee members are to reread this policy again.

Ms. Manning entertains a motion to adjourn. Ms. Cornell seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm.

Ms. Manning Yes

Mr. Cruz Yes

Ms. Cornell Yes

Respectfully submitted by,

Krista Perry

Executive Assistant to the School Committee & Superintendent