

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

On October 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 and Ms. Mary Manning

Members Attending Virtually: Mr. Manny Cruz (arrives in person at 9:30am)

Others in attendance: Superintendent Dr. Stephen Zrike

Call of Meeting to Order

Ms. Cornell called the meeting to order at 9:10am.

Mr. Cruz	Present
Ms. Manning	Present
Ms. Cornell	Present

Agenda items to be discussed:

- a. Policy Number assignments for Security Cameras in School and SPS Transgender, Gender Non-conforming, and Gender Expansive Student Guidelines.
- b. Review Restraint Policy
- c. Review Newcomer Policy
- d. Review policies in the 2000s: Administration
- e. Clarify: 6409 Public Participation at School Committee Meetings/Public Hearings

Ms. Cornell notes she would like to take a few agenda items out of order to review the first two policies listed in the 2000s: Administration Policies.

Policy 2100 - Superintendent of Schools is reviewed. Ms. Cornell makes a note to change pronouns his/her to their; there would be no substantial changes to be added to the November 6th School Committee meeting agenda.

Mr. Cruz notes in the past there was a policy passed to be able to change gender neutral pronouns listed in any policies. The updating of all pronouns should be changed to all existing policies listed under the public manual for the Salem School Committee Policy Manual.

Ms. Cornell agrees with Mr. Cruz and therefore asks the School Committee secretary to review and update all pronouns to they/their in the policy manual.

Ms. Cornell notes the legal reference in Policy 2101 - Administrative Goals should be changed but other than that change there are no other substantial changes needed. Ms. Cornell notes to bring this Policy to a first reading at the November 6th School Committee meeting.

Ms. Cornell notes to review the Newcomer policy for the next agenda item. Ms. Cornell notes the best place for all of our newcomer students is the school that is closest to their house.

Ms. Manning notes the main priority in regards to students is for all students to be aware that we do have a bus available to you so you can attend school regularly.

Dr. Zrike notes it does become problematic when students arrive at different times throughout the year and he is concerned we would like to revise the newcomer policy so the student would receive mandatory riders. Creating stops for students who live within one mile from their school would be problematic.

Ms. Cornell notes if you are a non mandatory rider, the standards and criteria to apply are grades 3-6 and grades 7-12. This new criteria included in the policy would assist the non mandatory riders.

Dr. Zrike notes almost every student at their intake is given a seat on a bus. The most challenging to our district is adding stops that are less than a half a mile from a student's home.

Ms. Cornell notes the issue we are trying to address with the Newcomer Policy is placing students into a school that is closest to their house.

Dr. Zrike confirms with the Policy Subcommittee members that he will retrieve additional data from the transportation manager.

Superintendent Dr. Zrike and Mr. Cruz leave the meeting at 10:00am.

Ms. Manning makes a motion to adjourn and Ms. Cornell seconded.

Ms.Manning	Yes
Ms. Cornell	Yes
Motion carries	2-0

The meeting adjourns at 10:20AM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Krista Perry

Executive Assistant to the School Committee & Superintendent