

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY
POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE
EDUCATION TRANSPARENCY ACT DESCRIPTION
SEPTEMBER 16, 2019 MEETING**

EDUCATION TRANSPARENCY ACT DESCRIPTION

The following is a full and accurate description of the final actions taken at the meeting and is provided in accordance with the Education Transparency Act, Md. Ed. Code Ann., §3-2B-09(b)(3). If there is a discrepancy between the video and this description, the video, which constitutes the official minutes of the meeting, shall control. The video/audio recordings of the Board of Education are the official record of the meetings and can be viewed at:
<https://vimeo.com/360539506>

The Policy Review Committee of the Board of Education of Baltimore County met on Monday, September 16, 2019, in Building E, beginning at 4:30 p.m. The following Committee members were present: Kathleen Causey, Chair; John Offerman, Vice Chair; Cheryl Pasteur, member; Omer Reshid, Student Member; and Lily Rowe, member.

The following staff persons were present: Dr. Mary Boswell–McComas, Chief Academic Officer, and Patricia Clark, Policy and Compliance Officer.

The following additional staff persons were present: Dr. Wheatley Phillips, Chief Accountability and Performance Management Officer; J. Stephen Cowles, Esq., Deputy General Counsel; Dr. Christine Koth, Director, Office of Research.

Call to order 4:33 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Meeting Minutes, June 17, 2019

The minutes of the June 17, 2019, meeting of the Policy Review Committee stood approved as recorded.

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. Consideration of Public Comments received on September 10, 2019.

No comments were received from the public on the policies; therefore, the following policies will be moved forward for third reader by consensus of the Committee.

- a. Policy 1600, Public Charter Schools
- b. Policy 5120, Attendance and Excuses
- c. Policy 6102, Teaching of Controversial Issues
- d. Policy 6200, School Libraries

3. Update on Policy Survey Options

Dr. Phillips and Dr. Koth provided the Committee with an update on their meeting with Mr. Offerman and Mr. Reshid in developing a cell phone policy and engaging stakeholders to get the most input. The consensus of that meeting was to use focus groups to gather stakeholder input. Staff provided an overview of the pros and cons of the use of surveys and focus groups.

Mrs. Pasteur entered the room at 4:54 p.m.

Mr. Offerman advised the Committee that a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday morning with Dr. McComas and the community superintendents. His goal is to have a policy in place for school year 2020-2021, and to include the policy in the Student Handbook.

III. NEW BUSINESS

4. Policy 8120, Purpose, Role and Responsibilities of the Board of Education

On motion of Ms. Rowe, seconded by Mr. Offerman, that the policy not be deleted and that the policy be referred back to staff for recommendations on alignment with current state laws to be reported back to the Policy Review Committee.

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/ Did Not Vote	Absent
Ms. Causey	X			
Mr. Offerman	X			
Ms. Pasteur	X			
Mr. Reshid	X			
Ms. Rowe	X			

5. 8340, Appeal Before the Board of Education

Following discussion, by consensus of the Committee, staff will review the language on p. 6, Paragraph C(3) and suggest additional language concerning timeliness, but that the policy would move forward.

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/ Did Not Vote	Absent
Ms. Causey	X			
Mr. Offerman	X			
Ms. Pasteur	X			
Mr. Reshid	X			
Ms. Rowe	X			

On motion of Ms. Rowe, seconded by Ms. Causey, that the policy be amended in p. 5, Paragraph V(C)(1), line 25, by adding the following sentence: “Notification will be sent within three business days after the Superintendent/Designee’s decision.”

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/ Did Not Vote	Absent
Ms. Causey	X			
Mr. Offerman	X			
Ms. Pasteur	X			
Mr. Reshid	X			
Ms. Rowe	X			

The Committee voted to recommend that the Board approve Policy 8340, as amended. The motion passed.

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/ Did Not Vote	Absent
Ms. Causey	X			
Mr. Offerman	X			
Ms. Pasteur	X			
Mr. Reshid	X			
Ms. Rowe	X			

6. Policy 8341, Appeal Before A Hearing Examiner

The Committee voted to recommend that the Board approve Policy 8341, as presented. The motion passed.

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/ Did Not Vote	Absent
Ms. Causey	X			
Mr. Offerman	X			
Ms. Pasteur	X			
Mr. Reshid	X			
Ms. Rowe	X			

7. Board Handbook

Ms. Causey thanked staff for providing the Committee with Board Handbook samples from sister school systems for consideration.

Ms. Causey asked the Committee to approve the creation of an ad hoc committee for the purpose of revising the Board Handbook. In order to move the work forward sooner rather than once a month PRC meeting, a small group could work with PRC staff and other staff members recommended by Dr. Williams and bring a revision to a future PRC meeting.

On motion of Ms. Rowe, seconded by Ms. Causey, that the PRC Committee forward the work of the Board Handbook to an ad hoc committee appointed by the Board Chair who will then inform the whole board and seek volunteers from the Board to serve on the committee.

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/ Did Not Vote	Absent
Ms. Causey	X			
Mr. Offerman	X			
Ms. Pasteur	X			
Mr. Reshid	X			
Ms. Rowe	X			

8. Policy Review Timeline

A copy of policies scheduled for review in school year 2019-2020 was provided to the Committee prior to the meeting. Ms. Causey asked whether Board members would like additional policies added to the schedule for consideration.

Mr. Offerman asked that Policy 5210, *Grading and Reporting*, be added to the schedule. The Committee voted to add Policy 5210 to the schedule.

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/ Did Not Vote	Absent
Ms. Causey	X			
Mr. Offerman	X			
Ms. Pasteur	X			
Mr. Reshid	X			
Ms. Rowe	X			

Ms. Causey asked that Policy 0100, *Equity*, be added to the schedule. The Committee voted to add Policy 0100 to the schedule.

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/ Did Not Vote	Absent
Ms. Causey	X			
Mr. Offerman	X			
Ms. Pasteur	X			
Mr. Reshid	X			
Ms. Rowe	X			

Ms. Rowe requested that she would like to finish work on the gifts policy, stating the work that the ad hoc committee does on the handbook may inform that policy.

The Committee voted to add Policy 8362, *Gifts*, to the schedule.

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/ Did Not Vote	Absent
Ms. Causey	X			
Mr. Offerman	X			
Ms. Pasteur	X			
Mr. Reshid	X			
Ms. Rowe	X			

Mr. Offerman requested that Policy 5120, *Attendance and Excuses*, be reviewed in conjunction with Policy 5210, *Grading and Reporting*. The Committee voted to add Policy 5120 to the schedule.

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/ Did Not Vote	Absent
Ms. Causey	X			
Mr. Offerman	X			
Ms. Pasteur	X			
Mr. Reshid	X			
Ms. Rowe	X			

IV. COMMITTEE GENERAL GOOD AND WELFARE

9. Ms. Pasteur raised concerns about the Board presiding over student suspension and expulsion matters. State law allows these types of hearings to be heard by a hearing examiner, and Ms. Pasteur suggests the Committee explore this option. Ms. Causey thanked Ms. Pasteur for bringing the item and informed her that she would work with Mr. Offerman, Dr. Williams, and the Law Office to evaluate her concerns.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.