

MONTROSE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

MEETING DATE MARCH 17, 2011 6:30 P.M.

Mrs. Kristen Follert
Chairperson, Policy Committee

Mr. Michael F. Ognosky
Superintendent of Schools

March 17, 2011 Policy Committee Meeting began at 6:30 P.M. in the Administrative Offices.

Board Members present included Kristen Follert

Administrators present included Mike Ognosky

Visitors present included Bill Host (High School Teacher)

The Policy Committee conducted the following business:

OLD BUSINESS:

- There were no items of "Old Business" discussed at tonight's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: The following revised policy recommendations were received recently from the PSBA Policy News Network and recommended for consideration:

- **Policy 004 (Board Membership):** This policy has been revised to comply with Section 1104 of the Ethics Act to reflect the fact that the Statement of Interest should be filed with the "governing authority," which is the school district. The correct procedure is to direct a board member to file the Statement of Interest with the district's Board Secretary. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 004 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the April 11, 2011 Board meeting.
- **Policy 203 (Immunizations and Communicable Diseases):** The State Advisory Health Board has amended state regulations relating to immunizations required for attendance at school, entrance into 7th grade, and clarified the immunization requirements for children in child care group settings and other specific specialized programs. The new immunization requirements are effective for the 2011-2012 school year. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 203 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the April 11, 2011 Board meeting.
- **Policy 210.1 (Possession/Use of Asthma Inhalers/Epinephrine Auto-injectors):** Act 104 revised Section 1414.1 of the Pennsylvania School Code to include epinephrine auto-injectors. Many of the requirements to possess and use an epinephrine auto-injector mirror the requirements for the possession and use of an asthma inhaler, therefore, the new language was added to the existing policy. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 210.1 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the April 11, 2011 Board meeting.
- **Policy 601 (Fiscal Objectives):** Act 104 revised Section 218 of the Pennsylvania School Code related to reports to the Department of Education. The law requires annual financial reports to be submitted to the Secretary of Education by each school entity no later than October 31st. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 601 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the April 11, 2011 Board meeting.
- **Policy 619 (District Audit):** Act 104 specifies that the chief school administrator and Board Secretary shall submit a signed statement to the Department of Education not later than December 31st of each year certifying that the school entity's financial statements have been properly audited pursuant to law and that, in the independent auditor's professional opinion, the financial information submitted in the annual financial report is materially consistent with the audited financial statements. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is

recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 619 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the April 11, 2011 Board meeting

- **Policy 718 (Service Animals in School):** The new Department of Justice regulations addressing service animals take effect on March 15, 2011. The revision to Policy 718 reflects the new language and requirements. Service animal means any “dog” that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. The only animals permitted under the policy are dogs, with the exception for rules allowing the use of miniature horses if they have been properly trained to perform a task for the benefit of the individual. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 718 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the April 11, 2011 Board meeting.
- **Policy 904 (Public Attendance at School Events):** The revision in this policy also reflects the new Department of Justice regulations addressing service animals that take effect on March 15, 2011. This policy allows for individuals with disabilities to be accompanied by their service animals while on district property for events that are open to the general public. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 904 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the April 11, 2011 Board meeting.

V. OPEN FORUM

No items were discussed during the Open Forum.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Mike Ognosky