

MONTROSE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

MEETING DATE OCTOBER 24, 2011 7 P.M.

Mrs. Kristen Follert
Chairperson, Policy Committee

Mr. Michael F. Ognosky
Superintendent of Schools

October 24, 2011 Policy Committee Meeting began at 7 P.M. in the Administrative Offices.

Board Members present included Kristen Follert and Chris Caterson

Administrators present included Mike Ognosky

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 201 (Pupils/Admission of Students):** This policy has been revised in accordance with the recent amendment to Section 1304 of the Pennsylvania School Code to clarify that students must be admitted to school during the first two weeks of the annual school term and at any time thereafter at the discretion of the school district. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 201 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the November 14, 2011 Board meeting.
- **Policy 701 (Property/Facilities Planning):** A revision was made to more accurately reflect the required and permissible information requested in a school census. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 701 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the November 14, 2011 Board meeting.
- **Policy 705 (Property/Safety):** Act 24 includes language related to the school entity's requirement to maintain a certified workplace safety committee. The revision now mirrors the requirements that were placed in last year's fiscal code that a district is required to have a "workplace" committee. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 705 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the November 14, 2011 Board meeting.
- **Policy 227 (Pupils/Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia):** The federal Drug Enforcement Administration has issued a notice of intent to amend Schedule 1 of the Controlled Substances Act to now include bath salts and synthetic cannabinoids as controlled substances. Therefore, the examples, such as Bath Salts and synthetic cannabinoids, under definitions #7 have been removed from the policy as they are now considered part of definitions #1 "Controlled substances prohibited by federal law". Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 227 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the November 14, 2011 Board meeting.
- **Policy 333 (Administrative Employees/Professional Development):** This policy revision includes the language that all requirements for professional development for school leaders (superintendents, principals, assistant principals) are not suspended and they must complete the required Pennsylvania School Leadership Standards program. It also includes a revision that all professional education plans associated with federal requirements for Title 1 and Title 2 funding shall be approved by the Board of Education prior to submission for approval by PDE. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 333 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the November 14, 2011 Board meeting.

- **Policy 433 (Professional Employees/Professional Development):** Contains the same language regarding Title 1 and Title 2 funding as appears in Policy 333. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policy 433 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the November 14, 2011 Board meeting.
- **Policy 302 (Administrative Employees/Employment of Superintendent)**
- **Policy 304 (Administrative Employees/Employment of District Staff)**
- **Policy 309 (Administrative Employees/Assignment and Transfer)**
- **Policy 317 (Administrative Employees/Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures)**
- **Policy 404 (Professional Employees/Employment of Professional Employees)**
- **Policy 405 (Professional Employees/Employment of Substitute Professional Employees)**
- **Policy 406 (Professional Employees/Employment of Summer School Staff)**
- **Policy 407 (Professional Employees/Student Teachers)**
- **Policy 409 (Professional Employees/Assignment and Transfer)**
- **Policy 417 (Professional Employees/Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures)**
- **Policy 504 (Support Employees/Employment of Support Employees)**
- **Policy 505 (Support Employees/Employment of Substitute and Short-Term Employees)**
- **Policy 506 (Support Employees/Employment of Summer School Staff)**
- **Policy 509 (Support Employees/Assignment and Transfer)**
- **Policy 517 (Support Employees/Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures)**
- **Policy 818 (Operations/Contracted Services):**
Act 24 amended Section 111 of the Pennsylvania School Code in all of the preceding 16 policies by expanding the list of offenses that will be included in the criminal history background check to include luring a child into a motor vehicle or structure, institutional sexual assault, sexual intercourse with an animal, unlawful contact with a minor, solicitation of minors to traffic drugs, and, sexual exploitation of children. Section 11 also now states that no person shall be employed in a school entity where the report of criminal history record information indicates the applicant has been convicted of any offense enumerated in Section 111. Act 24 implements a lifetime ban from employment for individuals convicted of such offenses. Section 111 also requires all current and prospective employees to notify the school of any arrest or conviction for those designated offenses. Current employees are required to report such offenses to the school administration by December 27, 2011, and, thereafter, within 72 hours of any future offenses. Said offenses are to be reported on the Pennsylvania Department of Education form "PDE 6004". Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that revised Policies 302, 304, 309, 317, 404, 405, 406, 407, 409, 417, 504, 505, 506, 509, 517 and 818 should be presented for a first reading consideration at the November 14, 2011 Board meeting.

The following new policy has not been recommended by PSBA for inclusion in the Policy Manual:

- **Policy 252 (Dating Violence):** In response to Act 104 of 2010, PDE drafted a Dating Violence Policy for school districts to review and possibly adopt. In its current form, PDE's policy imposes numerous procedural requirements upon school districts that are not requirements of the law. In response, PSBA drafted a policy on Dating Violence for school districts to consider that is less restrictive for districts. That policy was reviewed by the Policy Committee and is an optional policy for consideration by a district at this time. Based on the information received from PSBA, it is recommended by the Policy Committee that Policy 252 should not be presented as a first reading consideration at the November 14, 2011 Board meeting.

V. OPEN FORUM

No items were discussed during the Open Forum.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Mike Ognosky