

Approved December 11, 2017

Policies and Procedures Subcommittee of the Arlington School Committee

November 6, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

Present

Subcommittee Members: Len Kardon, Paul Schlichtman, Kirsi Alison-Ampe

District Leadership: Kathleen Bodie, Ed.D

Others: Michael Gilbert, Massachusetts Association of School Committees

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

1. Discussion of Welcoming Community Statement – Len presented samples from other communities, suggested any necessary policy changes could be made part of regular review and asked whether subcommittee wanted to pursue a statement. Kirsi asked what referral from full committee was. The referral seemed to indicate a desire to have such statement and subcommittee agreed to pursue. Len noted his preference not to have a long list of “Whereas” clauses but instead have a preamble explaining why we are adopting the statement, like Amherst did. Len agreed to work on a draft.
2. Policy review – Mike Gilbert (MG) explained the policy review process. We will look at each policy section and compare to the form MASC policy. In many cases they are the same. Where different, we will look at our existing policy for legality and current practice, and look at MASC policy for possible adoption in place of our policy or to identify changes we need in our policy for legal or best practice reasons.

Policy review by section:

Section A: Foundations And Basic Commitments

AA – Arlington has more history, but otherwise roughly the same. MG likes to remove statutory reference in language. Agreed, use Arlington (Arl) policy and remove references

AB – Same as MASC so keep.

AC – nondiscrimination statement – use MASC with inquiry references from Arl policy as exhibit – age is referenced in Arl policy but not MASC

ACA – Arl did not have. Will add MASC version. Kirsi asked a question about gender. MG said MASC has not added a policy but added language to nondiscrimination policy to address.

ACAB – This is an Arl Town policy so keep but MG asked about Section 7 reference to Affirmative Action Officer at Town Hall. Will amend to include Asst. Superintendent.

ACE – Policy has not changed substantially but removed word handicap and replaced with disability. So replace with MASC.

ACH – MASC does not have similar policy. MG does not think it is needed but Paul thinks it must have been adopted for a reason. So keep.

AD – Vision statement okay. We don't really have a mission statement. So merge vision statement into ADA.

ADA-E – outdated so delete

ADC – recently updated to be more detailed on vaping – adopt MASC version as more comprehensive

ADDA – addition in MASC policy so adopt that

ADDA-R – no change

ADF – Arl is fine. Keep

ADF – E – fine, no change

AE – same, no change

Section B: Board Governance And Operations

BA – same, no change

BAA – same, no change

BB – Arl is okay so leave

BBA – Send MG Arlington version and discuss at next meeting

BBAA – same, no change

BBB/BBBA/BBBB – merge and adopt MASC version

BBBC – fine

BBBE – fine

BBC – fine

BCA – same, no change

BCB – MG inclined to take it out. Staff conflict of interest policy in section G. Question about legality of Section 7. Kirsi would like to consult other attorney. Hold for now. Send out with other related policies to attorney.

BDA – keep Arl

BDA-E – keep Arl

BDAA – keep Arl

BDB – same, no change

BDD – same, no change

BDE – add reference to Open Meeting Law from MASC

BDEA – keep Arl

BDEB – MG questions need for it – should be a discussion – put on hold –

BDF – Arl is more detailed than standard MASC one. Keep but add reference to Open Meeting Law.

BDFA – Arl is okay but remove statutory references.

BDFA – E-1 – remove deadline for plan to Superintendent – leave in School Committee deadline

Next meeting December 11, 5:30-7:30.

Motion to adjourn made by Paul, seconded by Kirsi, approved 3-0, adjourned at 6:55