

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
April 7, 2022

Policy Committee

- I. Call to Order The Policy Committee meeting held at Litchfield Intermediate School and via teleconference was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Mr. Malo.

Members present: Mr. Malo, Chair, Ms. Murphy, and Mr. Breslin. Also present: Mr. Leone, Superintendent, Mr. Terzian, BOE Chair, Ms. Della Volpe, Assistant Superintendent, and Mrs. Hodges, District Liaison, LPS & RSD6.

- II. Approval of Minutes

- a. Review the minutes of the regular meeting of January 13, 2022

Mr. Breslin made a motion to approve the regular meeting minute of January 13, 2022. Ms. Murphy seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

- III. Communications

None

- IV. Public Participation

None

- V. Old Business

None

- VI. New Business

- a. Policy 6144.2 Reading Assignments and Other Instructional Material

Ms. Murphy shared her concerns on Policy 6144.2 in regard to students viewing R rated movies in classrooms. Some concerns outlined include, R rated movies require children under 17 be accompanied by a parent or guardian and most high school seniors are under the age of 18. While parental/guardian permission slips can be used to allow for classroom viewing, it excludes students from others if a parent/guardian says no. Most movies are historically inaccurate. And a recent *Science News* article cited that adolescents who watch R rated movies are more likely to try alcohol at a younger age. Ms. Murphy provided several alternative solutions in place of viewing R rated movies in classrooms.

Discussion ensued that included an example by Ms. Della Volpe on how one specific R rated movie is viewed and used in a classroom. It was agreed by the committee to refer this policy to the Curriculum, Programs, and Personnel Committee for their guidance and input prior to taking further action.

- b. CSDE District Guidance for Developing an Advanced Course Participation Policy

Ms. Della Volpe shared in March 2022 the CSDE released a draft *District Guidance for Developing Advance Course Participation Policy* that requires by July 1, 2022 local and regional boards of education shall adopt or revise an existing policy concerning the eligibility criteria for student enrollment in advanced placement courses or programs. This eligibility criteria shall not be based solely on a student's prior academic performance but provide multiple methods by which a student

may qualify for enrollment in advanced placement course(s). Mrs. Della Volpe went on to say the CSDE recommended once the policy is adopted to ensure four additional criteria are met. They are including clear language in the Program of Studies on how students/families can apply for financial assistance for any fees associated with an advanced placement course, review curriculum alignment so students can make connections earlier on in their educational experience to relevance and accessibility of advanced course work, ensure advanced curriculum courses are accessible based on student interest and need, and ensure teachers and counselors are educating students and families as early as grade 7 about the relevance and accessibility of advanced placement courses.

Mrs. Della Volpe reviewed the recommended language modification to *Policy 6146.11 Grade Weighting/Class Ranking* for compliance with the CSDE guidance. With the committee support, the revised *Policy 6146.11 Grade Weighting/Class Ranking* will go the Board of Education in May for first read.

VII. Future Agenda Items

Await feedback from the Curriculum, Programs, and Personnel Committee on *Policy 6144.2 Reading Assignments and Other Instructional Material*.

VIII. Adjournment There being no further business to come before this committee, **Mr. Terzian made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Breslin seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Escobar
Secretary – pro-tem