

## **Policy Committee Notes**

### **3/5/19**

Present: Amy Fowler, James Barrett, and Rani Dasi. Also present: Jennifer Bennett, Jim Wise, Janet Cherry, Scarlett Steinert, Ken Soo, and Donna Wyatt

#### **Policy 6220: Operations of School Nutrition Services**

- Adds information about conflicts of interest. (Strongly recommended)
- Updates legal references. (Required)
- Updates the cross references. (Recommended)

Ms Bennett reviewed the NCSBA revisions. The policy will go to the Board on consent for technical and conforming revisions.

#### **Policy 4325: Student Substance Abuse**

The Board had made recommendation for revisions to Policy 4325 and Regs 4325 at an earlier Policy Committee Meeting. The staff would like to ask the Board to consider leaving the language of the policy and regs as is.

Mr. Wise, Ms Cherry, and Ms Steinert reviewed the requested changes and asked the committee to allow the policy to remain as it is currently written.

Background: Student Substance Abuse 4325 policy was first reviewed in 1995 and then again in 2005. Since 2005, minor adjustments have been made on 5 occasions, usually in response to legislative or legal requirements.

Efforts that lead to the 2005 revision of Policy 4325:

- East Chapel Hill High School had a zero-tolerance policy for athletics
- Chapel Hill High School did not have a zero-tolerance policy

High School students and parents complained that the district applied these consequences differently and inconsistently within across school groups and between schools

As a response and in preparation of revising Policy 4325, several meetings were held in 2005 that included parents, staff and community stakeholders before making a final recommendation to the Superintendent. The outcome centered on several key points:

- any policy must be consistently applied to all students across all schools
- consequences expanded from being strictly punitive to also include legal, therapeutic, and personal implications
- arbitrary reporting of events was eliminated to avoid unfair reporting, replaced by legal charges
- adults get a chance to make a mistake without losing what they value (i.e speeding ticket) Students were allowed one opportunity to err before getting kicked off a team, club or activity

- leaving campus for lunch or parking on campus is a privilege - why should a student get that privilege if they knowingly violate a policy?

As a result, school teams met and returned with their feedback. In summary, the students on these committees were in favor of holding a very hard line and had the highest levels of consequences in their feedback. They wanted to hold their peers accountable, particularly athletes and performers who represent the school. Each team did concur that it was very important to have consistent consequences and enforcement between all the schools and the programs and teams at each school.

Since the adoption of Policy 4325 there has been a drastic reduction in Non School Related violations over the past 10 years.

- In 2011-12 there were 74 infractions, since that time there has been a steadily declined.
- Since 2016, there has been three (3) violations in 2016-17 and two (2) in the 2017-18 school year.

One question from the committee was - how do we follow up on other conduct?

The policy will remain as written.

**Policy 2126:** The policy will go back to the Board on consent for reaffirmation.

**Policy 2121:** Will go to the Board on D&A.

### **Policy 4150: School Assignment and Reassignment**

Mr. Soo shared the following information. Under ESSA, children placed in foster homes are entitled to quick determination of whether they should remain at their school of origin (regardless of whether the foster placement is outside the district) and to receive transportation to that school, even from outside the district. This is similar to, but not the same as, the right of a homeless student to remain in the school of origin.

In a quick review of the CHCCS policy manual, the reference to rights of foster students to remain at their school of origin could not be found. Kathy Boyd of NCSBA has forwarded a copy of their model policy (4150) which does address the issue.

The policy will be shared with Ms Mau, Coordinator of Student Enrollment, and she and Mr. Soo will revised the policy and bring it to the board for approval.

### **Policy 4700: Student Records**

Mr. Soo suggested that the policy committee review the policy's provisions on directory information. Directory information is information about students that a school district can release without parental consent. Parents/guardians must be given a copy of the directory information list every year. Parents have to notify the school (opt out) to prevent the release of

directory information without their consent. The CHCCS directory information list includes some fairly sensitive information, given current concerns about privacy, identity theft, and so on. Two specific issues follow:

1. The CHCCS policy says that student e-mail addresses are directory information (and thus may be released without parent consent, unless the parent has opted out from the annual directory information notice).
2. The policy lists as directory information “pictures or videos taken on buses, school grounds, in school buildings, and at school activities unless the picture or video may reveal confidential information about a student.”

By contrast, the directory information list in the Wake County policy manual is much more limited. It does not include student e-mail addresses and only authorizes the release of photographs for limited purposes, as follows:

b. The Board further designates the following student record information as directory information that may be disclosed without parental consent in official school or district-sponsored publications such as yearbooks; awards or honors programs; athletic, music, or drama programs; and team rosters for athletic teams and other competitive interscholastic clubs:

- (1) name;
- (2) photograph;
- (3) age (in years);
- (4) participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
- (5) height and weight of members of athletic teams;
- (6) official honors or awards received;
- (7) grade level; and
- (8) most recent previous school or education institution attended by the student.

Mr. Soo and Mr. Nash will work on rewriting Policy 4700. The PTA council will review the rewritten policy. The policy will then go to the board for a vote on the revisions.

### **Equity**

Ms Dasi asked that the Equity Plan be reviewed and that the preamble may need to be updated (see OCS). Equity should be addressed in all policies. Ms Fowler will discuss with Dr. Baldwin.