

**REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 18**

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

**FEBRUARY 25, 2010 MEETING MINUTES**

(rescheduled from February 8<sup>th</sup>)

RSU 18 Central Office 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Present: Larry Brown, Linda Laughlin, Dee Pizzo, Becky Seel and Laura Tracy

The Committee met to discuss a number of policies that had been referred to Drummond Woodsum for input last summer and fall. The Committee took the following action.

**Policies ACAB** (Harassment and Sexual Harassment of School Employees), **ACAA-R** (Student Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedure), and **GCFB** (Recruiting and Hiring of Administrative Staff)—These policies were reviewed by Drummond Woodsum for compliance with recent statutory amendments to the sexual harassment laws; references to “sexual orientation” needed to be added to keep the existing policies current. It was noticed by the Committee that a reference to “sexual orientation” needs to be added to the opening paragraph of Policy ACAB. With that addition, the Committee voted to recommend adoption of these policies by the Board.

**Policy EEAG** (Student Transportation in Private Vehicles)—Part of this policy relates to the use of private vehicles to transport students to and from school activities. Current policy language requires the owner of the vehicle to provide a rider on the owner’s vehicle insurance policy for the benefit of the RSU. The Committee discussed whether this should be required at all and, if so, in what amount. The Committee also discussed whether some sort of release should be required to protect the RSU and driver when a parent gives written permission for a student to ride with another adult to or from a school activity. The Committee also discussed the issue of students driving other students to and from school activities when the RSU does not provide bus transportation and whether/when that should be allowed. This policy was referred back to Drummond Woodsum for more input.

**Policy EI** (Insurance Management)—The Committee voted to recommend this policy for adoption. Linda Laughlin was asked to contact Drummond Woodsum to learn what was intended by the last sentence of the first paragraph.

**Policy GCF-R** (Professional Staff Hiring Procedure)—Drummond Woodsum asked the Committee to determine whether the policy language reflects the current practices of the RSU. Linda Laughlin advised the Committee that it does. The Committee voted to recommend this policy to the Board for adoption.

**Policies IHBG** (Home Instruction Program) and **IHBGA** (Home Schooling—Participation in School Programs)—Drummond Woodsum recommends adoption of these two policies as they are consistent with current State requirements, but deferring action on another policy regarding home schooling pending action at the State level (IHBGB). The Committee voted to recommend

adoption by the Board. Linda Laughlin noted that the RSU currently has 66 home-schooled students.

**Policy JLCCB** (Life-Sustaining Emergency Care)—The Committee discussed the fact that the file name for this policy appears to be wrong; another policy using this file name (Student Allergies) was previously adopted by the Board. The content of the policy in question appears to come from China's policy file name IHBAK; SAD 47 apparently did not have a similar policy. After reviewing the policy, the Committee voted to refer this policy to the Board for adoption with a new file name. Linda Laughlin will check with Drummond Woodsum to see what file name should be used.

**Policy GBA** (Affirmative Action Plan)—The Committee voted to recommend deletion of the requirement in Section II (A)(4) that notice of the Affirmative Action Plan be published in the newspaper. The plan will be posted on the RSU website with all of the other District policies. The Committee also voted to delete the various notes or suggestions offered by Drummond Woodsum that are printed in bold type in the body of the Plan. It was voted to recommend adoption of the Plan by the Board with the changes noted above. Linda Laughlin will check with Drummond Woodsum to see what is involved with conducting a utilization analysis (see Section V) and what it would cost.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Policy Committee will be on March 24, 2010 at 6:00 p.m., prior to the Board meeting scheduled for that evening at 7:00 p.m. The following policies were tentatively scheduled for inclusion on that meeting's agenda: the various policies regarding use of RSU facilities and grounds; the policy governing Adult Ed; and policies JLDBG and JLDBG-R regarding reintegration of juvenile offenders.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Seel, Chair