

Policy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 8:30 AM

Google Meet Dial-in: 413-438-4056 PIN: 976 893 587#

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes

II.A. November 2, 2021 Policy Committee Meeting
Minutes

III. Discussion of policies, regulations, and bylaws

III.A. Discussion of Policy 6146.2 - Credit for
Online Courses

**IV. Discussion of policies, regulations, and bylaws
in future meetings**

V. Adjourn

Policy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:30 AM

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I. Call to Order

Meeting Attendees:

Melissa Walker, Chair

Sharon Ferraro

Taffy Miller

Lisa Wolak

Meredith Starzyk

Jodi Sacchetta

The meeting began at 8:32 am

II. Approval of Minutes

A. October 5, 2021 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the October 5, 2021 Policy Committee Meeting minutes.

Carried with a motion by Taffy Miller and a second by Sharon Ferraro.

Yea: 3, Nay: 0

III. Discussion of policies, regulations, and bylaws

A. Discussion and vote on Policy/Regulation 6146 - Graduation Requirements

Committee members agree that Graduation Policy/Regulation 6146 - Graduation Requirements is ready for second read at the November 15, 2021 Board Meeting. No additional changes needed.

B. Discussion of Policy 6146.2 - Credit for Online Courses

Policy Committee members were joined by Meredith Starzyk, Director of Counseling at Weston High School. Ms. Starzyk took the committee members through the policy and gave examples as to the rationale behind the policy. Online courses are not included on the WHS transcript since we do not grade or oversee the course. WHS will send additional transcripts along with the WHS transcript when submitting them to colleges. Naviance can store up to two additional transcripts to transmit electronically to colleges. There was a discussion around the policy to tighten up some of the wording and requirements. The committee will review the redline version at the December 7, 2021 policy committee meeting and hopes to present the revised policy to the Board of Education for a first-read at the December 20, 2021 Regular Meeting.

IV. Discussion of policies, regulations, and bylaws in future meetings

Ms. Walker will look to see if she can find a list of policies that were identified last year for review/revision. Ms. Wolak will email principals to see if there are any policies they feel need review.

V. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 am.

Motion to adjourn the November 2, 2021 Policy Meeting. Carried with a motion by Sharon Ferraro and a second by Taffy Miller.

Yea: 3, Nay: 0

Chairperson

Superintendent

DRAFT

Instruction

Credit for Online Courses

The Weston Board of Education recognizes the importance of digital learning in education and the growing value and use of online coursework. In that regard, and in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 10-221a, the Board sanctions the receipt of online course credit, including credit to be used toward high school graduation requirements, in accordance with this policy.

Pre-approval

To receive credit for online courses, including credit to be used toward high school graduation requirements, ~~which are not otherwise offered by the high school,~~ students must, prior to registering for the course, receive approval from the high school principal or his/her designee. The decision of the principal or his/her designee with regard to online course credit approval is final. Pre-approval for online course credit may be granted if the following requirements are met:

1. The course is not offered at Weston High School, the course is not available due to scheduling conflict, or the course is being requested as a means of accelerating a sequence;
2. ~~T~~The workload required by the online course is equivalent to that of a similar course taught in a traditional classroom setting;
3. The content of the online course is rigorous and aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of Education, where appropriate;
4. The course engages students and has interactive components, which may include, but are not limited to, required interactions between students and their teachers, participation in online demonstrations, discussion boards, or virtual labs;
5. The program of instruction for such online coursework is planned, ongoing, and systematic;
6. The courses are:
 - a. taught by teachers who are certified in Connecticut or another state and have received training on teaching in an online environment, or
 - b. offered by institutions of higher education that are accredited by the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education or

c. regionally accredited; and

7. The principal has determined, in his or her professional judgment, that, given the student's academic and disciplinary history, the student is appropriately suited to engage in online coursework.

Additional Requirements

Only students in grades 9-12 are eligible to receive credit toward high school graduation by taking online courses. Students who have been pre-approved shall receive such credit upon completing the online course and obtaining a passing grade from the provider of the course. The course will be recorded on the institution's student's transcript and attached to the official Weston High School transcript.~~on a pass/fail basis.~~

Any expense incurred for taking the online course shall be the responsibility of the student and shall not be the responsibility of the Board of Education. Exceptions may be granted by the Director of Pupil Services.

Legal References

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-221a.

APPROVED: January 22, 2018

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Weston, Connecticut