

Policy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 1, 2022 9:00 AM
Remote Session

I. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum

II. Approval of Minutes

II.A. Approval of minutes from the October 4,
2022 Policy Committee Meeting.

III. Discussion of policies, regulations, and bylaws

III.A. Discussion of policy 6115: Ceremonies and
Observances

III.B. Discussion of new policy Series
2000/Administration: Uniform Treatment of
Recruiters

III.C. Discussion of new policy/Series 4000
Personnel: Emergency Action Plan for
Interscholastic and Intramural Athletic Events

III.D. Discussion of new mandatory policy Series
4000/Personnel: Exertional Heat Illness Awareness
for Intramural and Interscholastic Athletes

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

V. Next scheduled meeting of the Policy Committee

V.A. The next scheduled meeting of the Policy
Committee is December 6, 2022 (remote meeting).

VI. Adjournment

Policy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 4, 2022 9:00 AM
Remote Session

Absent: Peter Gordon

Present: Sharon Ferraro, Melissa Walker.

Present: 2, Absent: 1.

Administrative Representative: Lisa Barbiero, Superintendent of Schools

I. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum

A quorum has been met and the Policy Committee meeting can begin. The time is 9:02 AM. Unseconded with a motion by Walker, Melissa.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of minutes from the September 6, 2022 Policy Committee Meeting.

Move that the Policy Committee approve the minutes from the (date) meeting. Carried with a motion by Ferraro, Sharon and a second by Walker, Melissa.

Sharon Ferraro: Yea, Melissa Walker: Yea

Yea: 2, Nay: 0

III. Discussion of policies, regulations, and bylaws

A. Discussion of policy/regulation 5114: Student Discipline

Policy/Regulation 5114: Student Discipline was updated according to the Shipman & Goodwin model policy to include inclusive language. It will be discussed with Leadership at their next meeting and then brought to the Board of Education as a first-read.

B. Discussion of policy/regulation 1250: Visitors and Observations

Discussion of Policy/Regulation 1250: Visitors and Observations. The committee reviewed the updates, but Ms. Walker stated she would like Tracy Edwards, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, to review prior to bringing the revised document to the Board for a first-read. The policy will review again at the November meeting and see what feedback Ms. Edwards has.

C. Discussion of policy/regulation 5131.911: Bullying and Safe School Climate Plan

Discussion continued on Policy/Rregulation 5131.911: Bullying and Safe School Climate Plan. Ms. Barbiero wants to bring this document to the leadership team for continued review and

discussion. Melissa Walker suggested having Tracy Edwards, Director of Pupil Services, review the document for a clear understanding of the definition of bullying. The document will be brought back to the policy committee for the November meeting.

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

Jodi Sacchetta will go through the list of new and/or updated policies from Shipman & Goodwin and bring this list to the November policy committee meeting.

V. **Adjournment**

Move that the Policy Committee adjourn the October 4, 2022 meeting. The time is 9:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jodi Sacchetta

DRAFT

Instruction**Ceremonies and Observances****Separation of Church and State****Salute to the Flag and the Star Spangled Banner**

Time shall be provided daily, preferably during the morning opening exercises, to provide the opportunity for students to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Permissive language, rather than mandatory language, shall be used to introduce the recitation of the Pledge, such as "You may now stand to recite the Pledge, or You are invited to participate in the recitation of the Pledge".

If, because of some personal philosophy or belief, a student has made the personal, serious decision not to salute the Flag or stand for the "Star Spangled Banner", he/she may choose to remain seated and silent. Students may wish to use this time to reflect on their belief or remember loved ones. In any event, all students are expected to be courteous and respectful of the beliefs of others.

As required by the No Child Left Behind Act, The Superintendent will, by October 1 of each year, certify in writing to the state that students of the District are not prevented by policy or rule from participating in constitutionally protected prayer. The Superintendent will ensure that the staff, parents/guardians and students are made aware of the parameters of acceptable religious speech and actions. The Superintendent will also distribute guidelines to each school concerning religion in the schools, after such guidelines/regulations have been approved by the Board attorney and reviewed by the Board

Observance of Religious Holidays

It is Board policy that school will be closed on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur. Teachers should refrain from administering tests and quizzes on the day after these holidays. Major school functions should not be scheduled on the evening immediately preceding these holidays.

Individuals whose observance of other recognized religious holidays should be accorded like accommodations.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes
10-16a Silent Meditation
10-29a Certain days to be proclaimed by governor
10-230 Flags for schoolrooms and schools

6115b

Instruction

Ceremonies and Observances

Legal reference (continued)

PA 02-119, An Act Concerning Bullying Behavior in Schools
and Concerning the Pledge of Allegiance
BOE Policy 6154 Homework
No Child Left Behind Act

Policy Adopted: November 25, 2002
Policy revised: April 27, 2004

Weston Public Schools
Weston, Connecticut

Ceremonies and Observances
Separation of Church and State
Salute to the Flag and the Star Spangled Banner

Pledge of Allegiance

Students will be offered the opportunity to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag at least once during each school day. Participation in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance will be voluntary. Students may refuse to participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance for any reason, including religious, political, philosophical or personal reasons. If a student chooses not to participate, he/she may stand or sit in silence.

As required by the Every Student Succeeds Act, the Superintendent will, by October 1 of each year, certify in writing to the state that students of the District are not prevented by policy or rule from participating in constitutionally protected prayer. The Superintendent will ensure that the staff, parents/guardians and students are made aware of the parameters of acceptable religious speech and actions. The Superintendent will also distribute guidelines to each school concerning religion in the schools, after such guidelines/regulations have been approved by the Board attorney and reviewed by the Board.

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Recognition of Religious Holidays

The objective study of religious holidays provides a natural opportunity to promote an appreciation for and respect of diversity. Learning opportunities should extend beyond Judeo-Christian beliefs; reflecting the diversity of global cultures.

1. Recognition of religious holidays will not dominate the educational program and must support curricular objectives.
2. All religions must be afforded equal dignity, but none advanced nor disparaged.
3. Symbols such as Santa Claus, menorah, dreidels, shofar, Easter eggs, Christmas wreaths and trees, etc., while they may have no religious significance or liturgical applications, have unquestionably become associated with religious celebrations. Therefore, to avoid having students or visitors to the schools feel uncomfortable or left out, staff should be sensitive when displaying holiday symbols. If used in classrooms or hall bulletin boards, they are to be used in an educational context, and are to reflect cultural and religious diversity.

1. Decorations in public areas should be minimal. They should not use the holiday symbols of one religion exclusively or dominantly, or display them in such a way as to suggest that the school is celebrating a particular religious holiday.
4. Programs should focus on seasonal rather than religious themes' inclusive of concerts, enrichment programs and Parent-Teacher Organization sales.
5. Performances which recognize holidays must be of an artistic nature, not religious. Religious music must not dominate any school program. Program selections should not, by their nature, exclude students from participation.
6. The Cafeteria staff will consider religious dietary restrictions when planning menus (non-meat meals, limiting pork to one menu choice).
7. Parents may exclude their children from programs involving the recognition of religious holidays or if celebration is in conflict with family beliefs. A written request for exclusion should be sent to the Principal.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-1 6a Silent Meditation
10-29a Certain days to be proclaimed by governor
10-230 Flags for schoolrooms and schools
PA 02-119, An Act Concerning Bullying Behavior in Schools and
Concerning the Pledge of Allegiance
BOE Policy 6154 Homework
No Child Left Behind Act

Policy adopted: November 25, 2002
Policy revised: April 27, 2004
Policy revised: _____, 2022

Weston Public Schools
Weston, Connecticut

UNIFORM TREATMENT OF RECRUITERS

Subject to the provisions of law, all recruiters, including commercial, military and nonmilitary concerns, recruiters representing institutions of higher education, and prospective employers shall be provided equal opportunities of access to students enrolled in the district's secondary school[s]. Access may be granted through programs conducted by the Guidance Department. Such programs may consist of **[insert appropriate programs such as career days, college fairs, individual school visitations, in-school recruiting]**.

Except as provided below, military recruiters and institutions of higher education shall, upon request, be given access to the names, addresses and telephone numbers of secondary school students.

On an annual basis, the school district will notify parents of secondary school students of their right to object to the disclosure of the student's name, address and telephone number to military recruiters or to an institution of higher education. If a secondary school student or the parent of a secondary school student objects in writing to the disclosure of a student's name, address or telephone number to a military recruiter or an institution of higher education, then the district shall not disclose the student's name, address or telephone number to a military recruiter or an institution of higher education. The objection shall remain in force until the district re-issues the annual notification referenced above, after which time the parents and/or secondary school student must inform the school district in writing again of their objection to the disclosure of the information described above.

Legal References:

- Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-221b Boards of education to establish written uniform policy re treatment of recruiters
- Every Student Succeeds Act § 8025, 20 U.S.C. § 7908
 Armed Forces recruiter access to students and student recruiting information
- National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 § 544, 10 U.S.C. § 503
 Enlistments: recruiting campaigns; compilation of directory information

ADOPTED: _____, 2022

Weston Public Schools
Weston, CT

EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC AND INTRAMURAL ATHLETIC EVENTS

[In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-212i, local and regional boards of education are required, in consultation with local emergency medical services providers and allied health professionals, to develop and implement an emergency action plan for responding to serious and life-threatening sports-related injuries that occur during interscholastic and intramural athletic events. This policy outlines the requirements of such plan, but the particular components of any such plan will be district-specific and should be developed with medical professionals, as required by law.]

The _____ Weston Board of Education (the “Board”), in consultation with local emergency medical services providers and allied health professions, authorizes the Administration to develop an emergency action plan to be followed in the event that a student sustains a serious injury or illness while participating in an interscholastic or intramural athletic event. Such plan shall include, but need not be limited to, the following components:

- 1) A list of the school employees, coaches or licensed athletic trainers in each school who will be responsible for implementing the emergency action plan and a description of each person's responsibilities under the plan;
- 2) Identification of the location(s) or venue(s) where the interscholastic or intramural athletic event is taking place;
- 3) A description of the equipment and supplies that may be available at the site of the interscholastic or intramural athletic event that will assist in responding to an emergency, including the location of where such equipment and supplies may be found at such site;
- 4) A description of the procedures to be followed when a student sustains a serious sports-related injury, including, but not limited to, responding to the injured student, summoning emergency medical care, assisting local first responders in getting to the injured student and documenting the actions taken during the emergency;
- 5) A description of the protocols to be followed during cardiac or respiratory emergencies, including the operation of an automatic external defibrillator, use of cardiopulmonary resuscitation or the administration of medication, in accordance with applicable state law and Board policy;
- 6) A description of the protocols to be followed when a student is observed to exhibit signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion or is diagnosed with a concussion, in accordance with applicable state law and Board policy;

- 7) A description of the protocols to be followed when a student suffers from a traumatic brain injury or spinal cord injury, provided such protocols are designed to include instructions that are based on the level of training of the person implementing the emergency action plan and are in accordance with best practices and state law; and
- 8) A description of the protocols to be followed in the event of heat and cold-related emergencies, provided such protocols are in accordance with current professional standards.

In developing the emergency action plan, the Administration may also consult recommendations from the governing authority for intramural and interscholastic athletics.

The Board shall annually review such emergency action plan and authorize the Administration to update such plan, as necessary. Any school employee, coach or licensed athletic trainer identified in the emergency action plan shall (1) annually rehearse such emergency action plan, and (2) be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and have completed a course in first aid offered by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the Department of Public Health, any director of health, or an organization using guidelines for first aid published by the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross.

The Board shall distribute the emergency action plan to all school employees, coaches and licensed athletic trainers identified in the emergency action plan. The Board shall also post such emergency action plan in all athletic facilities and at all sites where interscholastic and intramural athletic events will take place, and make such emergency action plan available on the Internet web site for the school district or school.

Legal References

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-212i. Emergency action plans for serious and life-threatening sports-related injuries during interscholastic and intramural athletic events

Connecticut Association of Schools, Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference, Medical Handbook 2022-2023, available at https://www.casciac.org/pdfs/CIAC_medical_handbook22-23.pdf.

ADOPTED: _____, 2022

Weston Public Schools
Weston, CT

**EXERTIONAL HEAT ILLNESS AWARENESS FOR
INTRAMURAL AND INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS**

Prior to commencing a coaching assignment for the season, each coach who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the State Board of Education and is a coach of any _____ Weston Board of Education (“Board”) intramural or interscholastic athletics shall complete an exertional heat illness awareness education program developed or approved by the governing authority for intramural and interscholastic athletics (the “Program”). Such program shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) the recognition of the symptoms of an exertional heat illness, (2) the means of obtaining proper medical treatment for a person suspected of having an exertional heat illness, and (3) the nature and risk of exertional heat illness, including the danger of continuing to engage in athletic activity after sustaining exertional heat illness and the proper method of allowing a student athlete who has sustained exertional heat illness to return to athletic activity.

Any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the State Board of Education and is a coach of Board intramural or interscholastic athletics shall annually review the Program.

Upon development by the governing authority for intramural and interscholastic athletics of a model exertional heat illness awareness plan, the Board shall implement such plan by utilizing written materials, online training or videos or in-person training that shall address, at a minimum: (1) the recognition of signs or symptoms of exertional heat illness, (2) the means of obtaining proper medical treatment for a person suspected of an exertional heat illness, (3) the nature and risks of exertional heat illness, including the danger of continuing to engage in athletic activity after experiencing exertional heat illness, (4) the proper procedures for allowing a student athlete who has experienced exertional heat illness to return to athletic activity, and (5) best practices in the prevention and treatment of exertional heat illness.

The Board shall provide each participating student and each participating student’s parent or legal guardian with information regarding exertional heat illness awareness. The Board shall prohibit a student athlete from participating in any intramural or interscholastic activity unless the student athlete, and a parent or guardian of such student athlete, (1) reads written materials, (2) views online training or videos, or (3) attends in-person training regarding exertional heat illness awareness. Acknowledgment of adherence to this standard by the student athlete and the parent or guardian shall be made by the parent's or guardian's signature on an athletic participation informed consent form issued by the Board.

Legal References

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-149h. Exertional heat illness awareness education program

ADOPTED: _____, 2022

Weston Board of Education
Weston, CT 06883