



APPROVED BY THE BOARD NOVEMBER 10, 2016

**BURLINGTON BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
GOVERNANCE, POLICY & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MINUTES  
October 25, 2016**

Board Committee: Chair Commissioner Liz Curry; Commissioners Anne Judson, Susanmarie Harrington, and Jake Bucci (student representative)

Administration: Superintendent Obeng

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m.
2. Approval of Agenda
  - A. *Motion ( Judson / Harrington ) to approve agenda carried unanimously.*
3. Public Comment:
  - A. Comments and Questions from the Public: None
4. Technology Policy

Discussion of new policy: propose deleting point 1 and replacing with the following:

1. An annual process for educating students about responsible digital citizenship. As defined in this policy, responsible digital citizens understand safety, security, and privacy concerns; respectfully participate in online interactions; understand how information can be created, evaluated, and built on; understand copyright and authorship rights for their own works and others.

Committee agreed to bring the policy, as amended, forward for first reading at the November board meeting.

5. Student Governance Update

Jake Bucci reported that the Student Council has proposed a change to the dress code; Council is waiting to meet with Ms. Racicot. Jake and Bella Weston met with Nate Lavery to discuss student involvement in budget planning. They will present at the November board meeting. Exciting developments!
6. ITC and Finance Committee Merger

Committee reviewed the policy on board committees. Suggest new language:

Finance Committee: to support the Board's responsibility to ensure the district's long-term sustainability, the committee is charged with monitoring the District's finances, assuring that the District remains in compliance with financial regulations, requirements, and procurement policies.

**Change to:** To assure the District's long-term sustainability, the committee will monitor the District's financial health, practices, and compliance with regulations, requirements and procurement policy.

**Committee agreed to bring the revised policy to Board for first reading at its November meeting.**

## 7. Putting the Advocacy Back in GPA

Committee discussed:

- Is the Secretary of Education open to re-examining the formula for weighting ELL/FRL students? Superintendent notes that the AOE is aware of the fact that the proportion of FRL students has increased across the state. What work would be required to demonstrate to the state how the formula does or does not work for our district? Looking ahead: would be useful to educate ourselves first about the formulas and then create a community advocacy task force.
- The committee will track H656 JFO recommendation to the legislature following its summer study review
- We should become more conversant with Act 68 (the Education funding act) in order to be able to talk about how state financing affects our district. Note: check with Mark Barlow **and invite to November meeting.**
- Liz will look for letter explaining tax rates.
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## 8. Policy Governance Retreat Planning

Discussion of how to proceed with policy governance. Discussion of need to proceed with finishing policy blitz and beginning to practice with scenarios. Committee feels a sense of urgency. **Liz and Yaw will look for trainer for Nov. 12 or 19th.**

## 9. Adjournment

A. *Motion (Harrington /Judson ) to adjourn at 6:51 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted by Susanmarie Harrington