

**New Milford Board of Education
Policy Sub-Committee Special Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2021
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

Present:	Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach, Alternate Mr. Joseph Failla Mrs. Tammy McInerney
Absent:	Mrs. Olga Rella, Chairperson
Also Present:	Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Holly Hollander, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations Attorney Zach Schurin, Pullman and Comley LLC

1.	Call to Order The special meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Policy Sub-Committee was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Mrs. Faulenbach, sitting in as Chair for Mrs. Rella.	Call to Order
2.	Public Comment • There was none.	Public Comment
3.	Discussion and Possible Action A. Policies for Approval: 1325 Advertising and Promotion 3240 Tuition Fees 3260 Sales & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies - Mrs. Faulenbach said policies 1325, 3240, and 3260 have been reviewed multiple times at the Board level and will be up for approval at the next full Board meeting. She asked if there were any additional questions or comments. There were none. - Ms. DiCorpo said they are working on updating the internal processes regarding sale and disposal to make sure the disposal and asset lists do not overlap.	Discussion and Possible Action A. Policies for Approval: 1325 Advertising and Promotion 3240 Tuition Fees 3260 Sales & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies  RECEIVED TOWN CLERK 2021 SEP 13 A 8:49 NEW MILFORD, CT

B. Policies Recommended for Revision and Approval at Initial Board Presentation in accordance with Board Bylaw 9311: 1. 4300 COVID-19 Staff Vaccination Policy 2. 6141.6 Weighted Grading for Advanced High School Courses • Mrs. Faulenbach said these two policies are mandated. She said the mask policy also needs revision due to mandates and that will be added to the full Board agenda. Due to a timing issue, it is not on this agenda. • Attorney Schurin said the recommended policy regarding staff vaccination tracks very closely to the Governor’s executive order. The Board does not have much discretion to make changes to it. Though the executive order is set to expire on September 30, the Board is obligated legally to move forward with the policy at this time. • Ms. DiCorpo said legal has provided guidance on the internal notification to employees and that system is ongoing now. We are working through the process of how vendor verifications will be handled. We are also waiting on additional guidance from the state regarding the testing component. • Mrs. McInerney asked what happens on September 30 if the executive order expires. • Attorney Schurin said if the statute is repealed the Board may revisit the policy at that time to consider implications. • Mr. Failla noted that the policy can be rescinded if the Board wishes. • Mrs. McInerney asked why volunteers are exempt since she feels they should be held to the same standard required of staff. • Attorney Schurin said volunteers are exempt in the executive order. Any requirements for them would be a policy decision of the Board. • Mrs. Faulenbach noted that the Board has a volunteer policy and that perhaps that could be revised and brought to the full Board for review at the next meeting.	B. Policies Recommended for Revision and Approval at Initial Board Presentation in accordance with Board Bylaw 9311: 1. 4300 COVID-19 Staff Vaccination Policy 2. 6141.6 Weighted Grading for Advanced High School Courses
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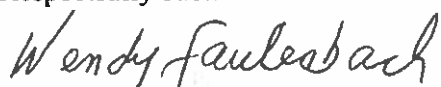
	• Mr. Failla said he is torn on this issue. He thinks vaccination is important but is not sure of the amount of actual interaction that volunteers have. • Ms. DiCorpo noted that some volunteers have significant interaction, for example volunteer coaches. • Attorney Schurin recommended that the definitions in this policy remain as is but said a cross reference could be added at the end to the volunteer policy if changes are made there. • Mrs. McNerney noted a religious exemption is not allowed for other vaccines and she asked why it is allowed here. • Attorney Schurin said the religious exemptions to which Mrs. McNerney refers tie to students and state law. Here, the religious exemption ties back to Title 7 of the Civil Rights Act regarding protected classes and tracks with the executive order regarding employees. • Mrs. McNerney noted a typo on page 4300(d). On page 4300(e), she asked who can access private medical information outside of the district personnel. • Mr. Failla noted that this would apply to the Department of Health, CDC, etc. • Ms. DiCorpo asked for more specifics regarding the definition of “short term duration”. She is thinking of the personnel involved in the roofing and NV5 projects that are ongoing. • Attorney Schurin said the executive order does not define the term and he suggested a good faith determination be made. He said the spirit of the order is to provide protection so if there is substantial doubt he would advise airing on the side of caution. • Mr. Failla said unless workers would have significant contact, he doesn’t see it as an issue. • Mrs. Faulenbach said she thinks it warrants a conversation with the vendors at least. It never hurts to ask questions. • Regarding policy 6141.6, Ms. DiCorpo said this is a legislative requirement. Ms. Hollander	
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	checked with high school guidance on current practices to see how they align. • Ms. Hollander said the high school has been reporting both weighted and non-weighted grades. The required policy just states what is already happening. Mrs. McInerney moved to bring policies 4300 COVID-19 Staff Vaccination Policy and 6141.6 Weighted Grading for Advanced High School Courses to the full Board for approval, seconded by Mr. Failla. The motion passed unanimously.	Motion made and passed unanimously to bring policies 4300 COVID-19 Staff Vaccination Policy and 6141.6 Weighted Grading for Advanced High School Courses to the full Board for approval.
4.	Public Comment • There was none.	Public Comment
5.	Adjourn Mrs. McInerney moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. seconded by Mr. Failla and passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Wendy Faulenbach, Chairperson
New Milford Board of Education