

**New Milford Board of Education
Policy Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2022
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

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NEW MILFORD, CT

Present:	Mrs. Olga I. Rella, Chairperson Mrs. Tammy McInerney Mr. Keith A. Swanhall Jr. Mr. Brian McCauley, Alternate
Absent:	Mrs. Leslie Sarich
Also Present:	Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Holly Hollander, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Anthony Giovannone, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations Mr. Raymond Manka, New Milford High School Principal

1.	Call to Order The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Policy Sub-Committee was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Mrs. Rella. Mr. McCauley was seated as an alternate in the absence of Mrs. Sarich.	Call to Order
2.	Public Comment • There was none.	Public Comment
3.	Discussion and Possible Action A. Policies/Regulations for First Review: 1. 3321 Requesting Goods and Services (Requisitions) • Ms. DiCorpo referenced the legal commentary which recommends deleting this policy since it is not legally mandated and the district already has an established budgetary process that the Superintendent directs. • Mrs. McInerney agreed that it should be deleted.	Discussion and Possible Action A. Policies/Regulations for First Review: 1. 3321 Requesting Goods and Services (Requisitions) 2. 3324.1 Contracts - Regulation 3. 3432/3433 Budget & Expense Report/Annual Financial Statement

	• Mr. Giovannone said he also agrees and that the Munis accounting system provides built in approval steps. • Mrs. Rella agreed that checks and balances are already in place. 2. 3324.1 Contracts - Regulation • Ms. DiCorpo said this is a regulation and is not legally mandated. Legal recommends that if the Board chooses to keep it, it be changed to a policy and suggests revisions for clarity and the addition of a non-discrimination section. • The committee was in agreement with these suggestions. 3. 3432/3433 Budget & Expense Report/Annual Financial Statement • Ms. DiCorpo said this policy is not legally mandated but does clearly define the district's internal monthly reporting process. • Mrs. McNerney asked why two policy numbers are referenced and asked if it can be changed to just one. • Ms. DiCorpo said it may go back to when it was originally adopted but she is not sure. She will check with legal. • Mr. Giovannone noted that the Board actually goes beyond what the policy requires, since statements are also shared at the Operations subcommittee. • Ms. DiCorpo said that could be added if the Board wishes. • Mrs. McNerney agreed, saying if we do it, we should reference it, but she said sometimes the subcommittees are canceled. She suggested they discuss it when it is reviewed in front of the full Board. Mrs. Rella moved to bring policies 3321, 3324.1, and 3432/3433 to the full Board for first review.	
		Motion made and passed unanimously to bring policies 3321,

	Motion seconded by Mr. McCauley. Motion passed unanimously.	3324.1, and 3432/3433 to the full Board for first review.
4.	Discussion A. Policy for Review: 1. 5132 Dress and Grooming • Mrs. Rella said this was discussed at the last meeting, with suggestions that the policy should be revised to be more inclusive and more generic. • Mrs. McNerney agreed, noting the gender specific terminology to such items as blouses. She also feels it is outdated. She would like to see an advisory committee that includes teachers and students set up to discuss it. • Ms. DiCorpo said follow up was requested at the last meeting. Ms. Hollander reviewed other area district policies and gathered administrative information. • Ms. Hollander said they surveyed DRG dress code policies and our current policy is very much aligned with them in general. • Mr. Manka said several districts currently have school based committees reviewing dress code. He said there are daily challenges in implementing the policy consistently. Mask compliance has led to leniency in other areas. As a staff, they are working on reinforcement. • Mrs. Rella said consistency in implementation is key. • Mrs. McNerney said she thinks an advisory committee is important. She also suggested that sending non-compliant students home cuts into instructional time. • Mr. Manka agreed and said it might be good to add a reference to restorative practices as well, since they are doing so much work in that area.	Discussion A. Policy for Review: 1. 5132 Dress and Grooming

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Page 4

	• Mr. McCauley said he finds the policy language vague and thinks it needs to be more specific. • Mr. Swanhall said he has issues with the graphic t-shirts. • Mrs. Rella said she has issues with hoodies too. • Ms. DiCorpo suggested that Ms. Hollander and Mr. Manka do more outreach to other districts who are currently reviewing to see what their processes are. They can bring that information back to the committee next month to inform further discussion before any action is considered by the full Board. • Ms. DiCorpo said she will also ask legal for the specifics of the legal references cited.	
5.	Public Comment • There was none.	Public Comment
6.	Adjourn Mrs. McInerney moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. seconded by Mr. McCauley and passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Olga I. Rella, Chairperson
Policy Sub-Committee