

Policy Committee Notes  
October 11, 2010

Attending: Board Members Collins and Garrity; Administrator Peart

1. **Policy 5131/5600 (Strauss Esmay) – Code of Conduct:** We reviewed our existing Code of Conduct policy and the Strauss Esmay-recommended Student Discipline/Code of Conduct policy in light of the NJ Commissioner of Education’s recent *Ramapo* decision. We recommend amending our existing Policy 5131, Section D. Off-Campus Misconduct from:

“A student may be subject to discipline for conduct constituting a crime which is committed off of school premises or at non-school sponsored activities.”

To

“A student may be subject to discipline for conduct which is committed off of school premises or at non-school sponsored activities. School authorities have the right to impose a consequence on a pupil for conduct away from school grounds, including on a school bus or at a school-sponsored function pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6. This authority shall be exercised only when it is reasonably necessary for the pupil’s physical or emotional safety, security, and well-being or for reasons relating to the safety, security, and well-being of other pupils, staff, or school grounds, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:25-2 and 18A:37-2. This authority shall be exercised only when the conduct which is the subject of the proposed consequence materially and substantially interferes with the requirements of appropriate discipline in the operation of the school. Consequences shall be handled in accordance with Policy and Regulation 5131, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1, and as appropriate, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2, 6A:16-7.3, or 6A:16-7.5.”

We also recommend adding the following language to the Rights of Student section on page 2: “Any pupil to be disciplined shall be provided the due process procedures for pupils and their families as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2 through 7.6.”

We were unable to reach consensus on how to handle updating the HHS student handbook to reflect this change.

2. **Policy Review:** We reviewed most remaining 5000’s policies re Pupils. Minor revisions were made to about a dozen policies. We also had some questions for the building administrators regarding promotion/retention and reporting on pupil progress. In addition, we had questions for the nurses regarding health services. As soon as we receive their feedback, we will make any necessary revisions to the respective policies. We will complete review of those policies and their regulations at our next meeting.

**Next meeting: TBD**

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Garrity