

## EDUCATION/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, January 4, 2021

5:30 P.M.

NLSD Media YouTube Channel

Committee Members			Remaining Meeting Dates
X	Gale Husack - Chairperson		Jennifer Butz Monday, February 1, 2021 Monday, March 1, 2021
X	Michele Martineau. - Co-Chair	X	David Hauser Tuesday, April 6, 2021 Monday, May 3, 2021
X	Michelle Heckman	X	Eric Hill Monday, June 7, 2021 Monday, August 2, 2021
X	Robert Keegan, Jr.	X	Gene Marks Tuesday, September 7, 2021 Monday, October 4, 2021
X	Matt Link	X	Scott Pyne Monday, November 1, 2021
X	Tania Stoker	X	James Schnyderite
X	Jill Chamberlain	X	Robert Vlasaty
X	Michele Dotta	X	Tim Weaber

Also in attendance: Tracy Hoffman, Melissa Desocio, Bryan Geist,

\*\*\* This committee meeting is being recorded. The recording will be posted on YouTube\*\*\*

## Minutes

### EDUCATION

- Act 136 of 2020, Graduation Requirements and State Testing (Dr. Stoker)
  - Dr. Stoker presented updates to Act 136 of 2020.
    - Formerly SB 1216
    - Keystone Exams
      - Students who took and passed a Keystone trigger course during the 19-20 school year are exempted from having to take the associated Keystone exam in Algebra I, Biology, Literature and will receive a "proficient" score on the assessment with no corresponding numerical score.
      - Students who sat for Keystone Exams in the Winter of 2019, and passed associated Keystone trigger course(s) will also

receive “proficient” score(s) with no corresponding numerical score (regardless of whether or not they passed the assessment).

- ❑ Graduations Requirements/Pathways
  - ❑ Act 158, relating to Graduation Pathways, was supposed to take effect with the Class of 2022 (current juniors). Due to the pandemic, and the passing of Act 136, graduation requirements have been delayed and will now begin with the Class of 2023 (current sophomores).
  - ❑ Some graduation pathways require “proficient” scores and some require a numerical composite score. For students who were exempted from taking the Keystone Exam in SY19-20, if they need it to graduate (Class of 2023 and beyond), they can still sit for the assessment between now and graduation to obtain a numerical score. That score will only count for graduation purposes. We were told that those scores will never count towards building level scores.
- ❑ Waivers
  - ❑ There has been discussion about a possible accountability waiver under a new president and federal secretary of education, but that remains to be seen. A testing waiver from the federal government for SY20-21 is not expected.
- ❑ Mrs. Husack asked what we are doing to monitor our students locally.
- ❑ Dr. Stoker shared examples of local assessments and frequency.
- ❑ Overview of Accessing Online Platform from a Family Perspective (Principals)
  - ❑ Mr. Schnyderite shared on behalf of Peters Elementary School:
    - ❑ Offered evening sessions to increase student engagement in the virtual environment, parenting through crisis led by Centers for Humanistic Change. Upcoming sessions will focus on instruction, such as utilizing Eureka Math. Also, reading strategies for young/new readers will be present in February and March.
    - ❑ Monthly Family Engagement meetings are held for both elementary schools. This has helped decrease the frequency of parents reporting concerns.
    - ❑ Mr. Schnyderite shared that more students are selecting the 5-day model for remote learning. Peters Elementary is considering solutions to decrease the number of students on the 5-day remote model.
- ❑ Mr. Pyne shared on behalf of Slatington Elementary echoed much of what Mr. Schnyderite shared.

- There has been an increase focus on communication.
  - Attendance and work completion is an issue for about 5% of students in SES.
  - Live Streaming was a “blessing” as we moved into the end of December. Students are able to remain with their in-person teacher even in the remote learning model now.
  - Mr. Pyne shared that the recording of all the family engagement sessions are posted on the website for parents to share later.
  - Ms. Chamberlain on behalf of NLMS shared the school is consistently using Google Classroom.
    - Fully remote students follow their regular classroom schedule and participate via live-streaming
  - Mr. Vlasaty on behalf of NLHS shared the school is consistently using live streaming with positive feedback from parents. Some students shared that they like to be able to have more flexibility with their schedule that was in place prior to the live streaming.
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- Second Quarter Instructional Model (Mr. Link)
    - Fully remote from January 4th - January 15th
    - Return to hybrid model on January 19th if positive case counts do not pass the thresholds outlined in the attestation statement
    - It is too soon to tell when students can return to in-person instruction 5-days a week.
  - Math 180 (Mrs. Dotta)
    - Mrs. Dotta did share that funding from the Special Education Covid Mitigation grant was put towards purchase of the Math 180 program. The balance of the cost is being funded through Medical Access funding. She also shared some information on how we use the Math 180 program for our students with special needs.

#### **POLICY** (Dr. Stoker)

- Policy #203 - Immunizations and Communicable Diseases
  - Dr. Stoker noted that our school nurses reviewed and provided direct input to the first three policies this evening.
  - Dr. Stoker shared the updated draft language for the policy.
  - Mrs. Husack asked for clarification on the last section of updated language.

- Dr. Stoker and Mrs. Desocio noted that during emergencies and for health and safety reasons we can share certain information about a student with those who have a need to know.
- This policy is being recommended for legal liability reasons.
- Board members on the committee approved the policy moving to first reading on 1/11/21 Board agenda.
- Policy #209 - Health Examinations/Screenings
  - Dr. Stoker shared the updated draft language for the policy.
  - This policy is being recommended for legal liability reasons.
  - Board members on the committee approved the policy moving to first reading on 1/11/21 Board agenda.
- Policy #314 - Physical Examinations
  - Dr. Stoker shared the updated draft language for the policy.
  - This policy is being recommended for legal liability reasons.
  - Board members on the committee approved the policy moving to first reading on 1/1/21 Board agenda.
- Policy #815.2 - Livestream Video
  - Dr. Stoker shared the draft language for the policy. This is a new policy. The draft language was provided by CLIU TechPool Counsel and reviewed by the Katz, Sweets, Stevens Law Firm
  - Mrs. Martineau asked if this is applicable to teachers live streaming from their home for instruction.
    - Dr. Stoker stated that it does cover that situation.
  - Mrs. Husack asked for clarity on when students are marked as present if they are live streaming. She gave some examples of when the draft language seems to contradict itself.
    - Administration agreed to clarify the language
  - Board members on the committee approved the policy moving to first reading on 1/11/21 Board agenda, with language clarifying attendance as discussed

***Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 1, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.***