

RIVER RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
POLICY/CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2015

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- I. The meeting was called to order by Lea Breuer at 5:03 PM in the Superintendent's Office/Board Room.
 - II. Roll Call: Board Committee members Lea Breuer, Emilie Mumm, and Kerri Schier were present. Also present: Dr. Athey. Community members present: Darlene Mueller and Kathy Reising.
 - III. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.
 - IV. Dr. Athey noted that public notice of the meeting was provided on August 28, 2015 at 11:00 am.
 - V. The following policies were discussed:
 - A. *District Wellness Policy (458)* – The Committee recommended that a sample policy from the Dodgeville District, which was updated in 2006, be proposed to replace the 1995 River Ridge Wellness Policy. The Committee will bring the policy to the Board on Sept. 9 for a first reading. Dr. Athey noted that he will convene a meeting of the district's Wellness Committee. Under the proposed revised policy, the Committee will meet at least three times a year to develop goals pertaining to nutrition and physical activity. Dr. Athey will share our proposed revised Wellness Policy with the Committee as well as an online wellness report card tool that could be used as a benchmark for RRSd goals. Under the revised policy, the Wellness Committee will provide an annual report to the Board and the public. The Policy Committee suggested that this take place at a regular board meeting, or in the district newsletter, perhaps during the month of August when we communicate annual notices.
 - B. *Public Appearances at Board Meetings (187)* – The Committee discussed our current policy on Public and Staff Participation at Board Meetings. This policy was last updated July 1, 1995. The Committee suggested that an updated/revised policy consider the following:
 - i. That anyone who wishes to speak to the Board must sign in prior to the start of the meeting.
 - ii. That there be a 15-minute time at the beginning of the meeting and a 15 minute time allotment at the end of each board meeting for members of the public to speak. If no one is signed up to speak then the Board will go on to the next agenda item. (If a person wishes to speak at the end of the meeting, it should not be a repeat of the information they shared at the beginning of the meeting.)
 - iii. That public appearances/comments be an agenda item on all Board/Board Committee meetings—including special meetings.
 - iv. That the scope of what people would like to address not be limited to those items on the agenda.
- Dr. Athey will create a revised draft of our existing policy which takes the Committee's suggestions into account. The revised draft will be provided at the October committee meeting.

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C. *Grading Policy (345.1)* – The District’s current policy was last updated July 1, 1995. Dr. Athey was apprised by High School Principal Clay Koenig and Counselor Caron Townsend that the middle and high school have not been following the suggested grading scale in the policy book because a “one-size fits all” grading scale doesn’t work. The school’s practice is reflected in the high school handbook which says, “The grading system set by the teacher for each course will be explained to the students on the first or second day of classes.” If a grade is questioned by a student or parent, the teacher needs to be prepared to provide an explanation of his/her grading system and the rationale for the grade the student received. Committee members asked the following questions related to other aspects of the current Grading Policy:

- In practice, does a final exam constitute 20% of a student’s final grade?
- How many days can elapse before a grade of “incomplete” changes to a letter grade?
- Have we ever had a student audit a class for no credit and no grade?

Dr. Athey will work with Clay Koenig, Caron Townsend and Trudy DeSimons to draft a revised Grading Policy which reflects our current practices.

VI. *Suggestions and Recommendations for Future Items* - Chairman Lea Breuer provided the Committee with a handout outlining the six policies that have been addressed by the Policy/Curriculum Committee since January, 2014. The Committee wishes to resume a monthly meeting schedule to update the district’s policies. They asked Dr. Athey to choose two additional policies to the October meeting for initial review/revision.

VII. *Adjournment* – Karri Schier moved to adjourn. Lea Breuer seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM

The next Policy/Curriculum Committee Meeting will be held Wednesday, October 7th at 5:15 PM in Room 15.