

NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, December 18, 2014
AT 5:30 P.M. -- NCSU CENTRAL OFFICE, Room A213

MINUTES - DRAFT

Present

Committee Board Members:

Patrick Austin, Charleston
Gigi Gobiell-Judd, Derby
Steve Mason, Lowell
Viola Poirier, Coventry
Arlene Brown, Newport Town

Staff:

John Castle, NCSU Superintendent
Liz Butterfield, Recording Secretary

Press:

Ed Barber, Newport Daily Express

Public:

Brian McNeal (briefly)

I. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by the chair, Steve Mason. There were no changes to the agenda.

II. **Motion** to Approve the Minutes of November 20, 2014 – *Attachment A* AUSTIN/JUDD **Approved**

III. Privilege of the Floor/Public Comment: Mr. McNeal dropped off a photocopy of his comments from the NCUHS meeting on Tuesday. Mr. McNeal then left the meeting.

IV. New, Unfinished or Other Business

Information and/or Action:

Steve asked John where we are in the process with the VSBA policy audit. John shared the timeline and clarified that the VSBA will make recommendations to eliminate policies that are not needed and to add policies that we don't currently have but need. They may also combine some policies and recommend that some become procedures. The VSBA categorizes policies as: required, recommended, or should be considered.

John will do outreach to boards to encourage participation at Policy Committee meetings.

A. Discuss the following Revised Policies:

A.1 Policy Development, Review and Adoption: John told the committee that he has discovered that the scope of the revision is larger than anticipated. He distributed a draft, explaining that A.1, A.2 and A.3 have been combined into one policy: A.1. There was discussion about whether or not to specify the number of readings required for policy adoption and/or revision. John felt that not specifying the number of readings required was better, leaving it up to each board, and boards can choose to adopt after one reading, if desired, or can require more than one reading, or can table. The committee agreed that the new version of A.1 will be called "Policy Development, Dissemination and Administration." The word "district" will be added to the sixth paragraph, 3rd sentence, between the words "individual" and "board". **Motion** to recommend that current Policy A.1 be replaced with the revised Policy A.1: Policy Development, Dissemination and Administration and that Policies A.2 and A.3 be rescinded. AUSTIN/JUDD **Approved**

A.4 Administrative Procedure Development: John distributed his first draft and asked the committee to review for consideration for the next meeting.

B. Review the following Policies:

J.6 Head Lice – Attachment B

John distributed compiled comments from Nurses and Principals in response to a survey asking them what their current procedures are concerning Head Lice. John stated that it is obvious that there is much variance between schools. The Nurses have asked that we wait to make any changes until after they have their in-service. John will discuss Head Lice procedures with the Leadership Team at the February meeting, after the nurses have met. He stated that the current policy has been in place for 14 years, and there has been an evolution in the recommendations from the VT Health Department in that time. He said that the VSBA recommends following the Health Department recommendations. It was agreed to re-examine the Head Lice policy in February at Policy Committee, with the recommendations from the school nurses.

G.19 Responsible Use – Attachments C.1 and C.2 John distributed a Model Policy, the result of a combined effort by the Agency of Education and the VSBA. The model policy does not include specific mention of cell phones. John stated that Responsible Use can be determined by procedure. John shared that contrary to Mr. McNeal’s previous statements, RNESU does allow cell phone use in the classroom. Technology is now necessary in the classroom, and John hopes for consistent practices in each building. He advocates that we align our policy with current practice, and will work with the Leadership Team to develop procedures. Gigi stated that the Model Policy mirrors what we are trying to establish. **Motion** to recommend adoption of the Model Policy for Responsible Use. **JUDD/AUSTIN Approved**

F.47 Portable Electronic Communication Devices – Attachment D

After discussion of the current policy F.47, Gigi JUDD **amended** her **Motion: Motion** to recommend the adoption of the Model Policy for Responsible Use and to recommend rescinding Policy F.47, Portable Electronic Communication Devices. Patrick AUSTIN seconded the amended motion. **Approved.**

IX. Date of Next Meeting/Future Agenda Items

Thursday, January 15, 2015

XI. The committee meeting was **adjourned** by unanimous consent at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Butterfield
Recording Secretary

Meetings:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
NCSU Policy Committee	Thursday	January 15	5:30 p.m.	NCSU Room A213
NCSU Executive Committee	Thursday	January 15	6:30 p.m.	NCSU Room A209
Support Staff Negotiations	Wednesday	January 28	4:00 p.m.	NCCC Room 380
Teacher Negotiations	Tuesday	February 3	5:30 p.m.	NCCC Room 380