

## REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

The Policy Committee met on Monday, March 6, 2017 at 4:00 pm at the Cincinnati Public Schools Education Center in the Board Office Conference Room.

### **Student Voice/Representative in Board Practice**

Committee member Hoffman, in the absence of Ms. Bledsoe, the Board's Fellow, informed the Committee that she and Ms. Bledsoe will be meeting with Pat Neal-Miller, the Director of Family and Civic Engagement on March 10, 2017 to get feedback on the presentation for Superintendent Ronan's Student Leadership Team's April 2017 meeting.

**ACTION:** Ms. Bledsoe will prepare a guide on how the group discussions will be managed. The Policy Committee will discuss the students' recommendations at the April 10, 2017 Policy Committee meeting.

Chairperson Jones recommended inviting the students to the April 10 meeting to involve them in shaping their participation as student representatives on the Board.

Committee Member Nelms expressed a desire in forming a District Student Athlete Council.

### **Magnet Enrollment**

The Committee reviewed Chief Information Officer Sarah Trimble-Oliver's preliminary magnet enrollment first-round report that contained racial, economic, and geographic diversity for the elementary magnet schools with the highest demand: Dater, North Avondale and Sands Montessori schools.

The Committee reiterated that more than one year's worth of data is needed to see trends.

Mrs. Hoffman reported that the preliminary data showed that there was a 5 percent increase in the non-white population for over two years. Ms. Trimble-Oliver reported this information at the February 13, 2017 Policy Committee meeting.

Ms. Jones advised the Committee to establish timelines as to when the data should be reviewed, with a goal of reviewing total enrollments at the completion of the lottery.

Mrs. Hoffman recommended that the data be reviewed in the month of October, which is when official enrollment counts are available. The data should also be reviewed after the third round that runs from April 5-21.

Mr. Nelms advised to include data about parents whose children were accepted into the lottery but chose not to move forward, as well as who applied and who was accepted.

Mrs. Hoffman advised to include economic and geographic diversity data in the report.

Mrs. Neal-Miller reported that a survey will be administered to parents that participated in the lottery for school year 2015-2016 to get feedback and to ask why parents picked a certain school. The survey will be administered at the end of March 2017 or early April 2017.

Mrs. Hoffman advised Mrs. Neal-Miller to include in the survey a question as to where parents would have enrolled their children if they did not get in through the lottery.

**ACTION:** Mrs. Neal-Miller will provide an update on the results of the survey at the May 8, 2017 Policy Committee meeting.

Ms. Jones advised the Committee that when looking at the patterns and trends of the data, clarity is needed as to why the data is being reviewed, as it is tied to the Magnet Enrollment policy, and how does it reveal that equity is being achieved in the enrollment process.

Ms. Jones talked about how the magnet enrollment relates to the Board's equity policy that affects the entire District. She also advised that once the Board establishes its measures for its strategic goals, it is imperative that the Board addresses equity in the magnet enrollment and establishes a framework to do it.

**ACTION:** The Committee will include in its workplan what are the measures of equity.

### **Policy 7560.01 – Creation of High Quality Schools**

Ms. Jones reported that the Policy will be recommended for approval at the Board's March 6, 2017 Regular Meeting.

She informed the Committee that Board member Bates initiated review of the policy upon the Board's past consideration of partnering with Phalen Leadership Academies to ensure that the Board, at least on an annual basis, requires a report regarding the progress of any community schools that it sponsors or supports. The reports will include a review of the academic achievement and financial accountability of the school.

### **OSBA Essential Policies**

#### **Policy 5201 – Truancy**

Mr. Hoying recommended that the Committee review Policy 5201 – Truancy, due to House Bill 410 that will require changes to the document. The bill will be effective in April 2017.

The Bill will redefine "habitual truancy," remove the term "chronic truancy" from the Ohio Revised Code, and revise when schools can intervene from a day's scheme to a calendar year.

The bill now defines "habitual truants" as students that miss more than 30 consecutive hours, 42 or more hours in a month, or 72 or more hours in a school year.

When a student reaches the level of a habitual truant, the school district must assign the student to an absence intervention team comprised of at least two district staff members and the student's parent or guardian

Mr. Hoying informed the group that the General Assembly has prohibited schools from suspending or expelling students for truancy. The District does not practice this procedure.

Committee member Nelms inquired as to how long students are considered truant or dropouts.

Mr. Hoying advised that he has been discussing this with Barbara Mattei-Smith, Director of Performance and Accountability, and that currently there is nothing in the statute as to how the Ohio Department of Education and Educational Management Information System will treat withdrawing students, as this is counted on student's report cards.

Mrs. Hoffman reiterated that Bill Myles, Assistant Superintendent, is working with Senator Peggy Lehner regarding a pilot program on attendance and truancy.

**ACTION:** The Committee will review the Truancy policy at the April 10, 2017 Policy Committee meeting.

**Touch Points (No Action Required)**

Committee Chairperson Jones informed the group that the following policies were submitted to the full Board and approved on the following dates:

- Committee By-Laws (2-13-17)
- Policy 2255 – Equity and Excellence in Education (2-27-17)
- Policy 5113 – Inter-District Open Enrollment (2-27-17)
- Policy 5111.01 – Students Experiencing Homelessness (2-27-17)

She will be adding “touch points” to the agenda for her checks and balances for completion of policy work.

**Other Business**

**Reschedule April 10, 2017 Policy Committee Meeting**

The Committee agreed to reschedule its April 10, 2017 meeting to April 17, 2017, 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM in respect to the beginning of Passover.

The meeting adjourned at 4:49 PM.

**Policy Committee**

Carolyn Jones , Chair  
Elisa Hoffman  
A. Chris Nelms

**Staff Liaisons**

Dan Hoying, General Counsel  
Yenetta Harper, Director, Teacher and Principal Development  
Paul McDole, Director, Human Resources  
Sarah Trimble-Oliver, Chief Information Officer