

2015-16 Policy Sub-committee Overarching Goals

Year End Summary

In addition to the regular work the committee did with Superintendent to ensure district oversights are in place to support student achievement and district improvement goals, the 2015/16 Policy Sub-committee had the following four overarching goals.

- 1. Review/create and present policy to the School Committee as it relates to the NRSD website's useability for all end users (students, staff, parents, community.)**

| Owner | Activities | Outcome |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kathy Codianne | Review/follow web site update. Research comparable districts website policies. Recommend policy and/or procedure for website useability. | The policy sub-committee voted to recommend MASC hosting for our district policies. We would like to invite MASC to one of the School Committee regular meetings to present the option with costs and ongoing obligations along with the benefits that this would have for the entire district community. If the School Committee cannot find funds in the already approved 16/17 budget, the sub-committee recommends that hosting by MASC be built into the 17/18 budget. |

2. Review/update/present to the School Committee as needed, NRSB Communication Policies to ensure all stake holders in the NRSB are able to access and understand policies and events at the district.

| Owner | Activities | Outcome |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nicole Odekirk | Identify and review key communication policies | Once the School Committee reviews and adopts policy IJNDD (Online Communication) as recommended by the policy sub-committee, this goal will be considered complete as all other communication policies flagged have been put through process. Implementation of Policy IK (Student Progress Reports to Parents/Guardians) is currently being discussed between the Interim Superintendent and the incoming Superintendent. Once their recommendations for attaching protocol to the policy are complete, we recommend that the incoming sub-committee move the policy through discussion and approval by the School Committee. |

3. Review/update/create digital learning policies to encompass all schools across the district and address the NEASC report on both the 21st Century Classroom and ICARE initiatives.

| Owner | Activities | Outcome |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Neal Darcy | Identify and review key technology policies. Research comparable districts tech policies. Encourage feedback and expertise from district technology personnel and town communities. | With the rollout of tech programs currently being debated and implemented across the district, this goal is an evolving discussion that will not reach a conclusion until some decisions are made in the technology department. (i.e. the BYOD policy may be meaningless with the 1 to 1 initiative) The policy sub-committee encourages the incoming sub-committee to make tech policies a priority in the coming year so that the reports and initiatives mentioned can be reconciled with the technology plan and programs once they are understood. |

4. Review/update/present to the School Committee as needed, district Financial Policies to ensure appropriate oversights are in place.

| Owner | Activities | Outcome |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nicole Odekirk | Identify and review key financial policies. Monitor budget cycle and recommend policy additions/changes while observing budget process. | The sub-committee took an ad-hoc approach to the financial policies of the district as the budget process for the year was being rebuilt. Several policies did make their way to the School Committee for discussion and approval. The policy sub-committee recommends to the incoming sub-committee that it work closely with the finance sub-committee to add policies to the district that do not currently exist as far as the budget cycle is concerned. Timing is critical on these policies and should be addressed upon reorganization of both the policy and finance sub-committees. |

In addition to the above goals, the 15/16 policy subcommittee would like to note the time and effort it took address the growing pains of the LTA policy. The policy-subcommittee encourages the incoming committee to put monitoring the success of the LTA policy as a priority.

The idea of creating a Chemical Health policy also took a great deal of time. The feedback received from the principals and school councils regarding a Chemical Health policy should be addressed. A Chemical Health Policy will need to reconcile the many different standards of different organizations (MIAA, NHS, etc.) along with the high expectations of the Nashoba Regional School District. Being that this policy alone has already garnered hours of discussion, we recommend that the incoming sub-committee make approval of a Chemical Health Policy a goal unto itself.

The 15/16 policy sub-committee also began work on reviewing and approving the ‘boiler plate’ policies in the policy manual. For the most part, these policies along with the School Committee by-laws have not been reviewed since 2001. Though there are many, they generally do not need much editing and/or discussion and we encourage the incoming committee to continue this work.