

Port Washington Board of Education
Policy and Personnel Committee Meeting
Friday, February 26, 2016

Members in Attendance: Dr. Kathleen Mooney, Ms. Elaine Fenick,
Ms. Elizabeth Weisburd, Mr. Larry Greenstein

Community: Christina Nadolne, John Neil, George Borda, Cindy Moroney, Natasha Kittle, Lynn
Steinberg

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Personnel Update

Ms. Elaine Fenick reported that the Human Resources Department has twenty tenure recommendations that were presented to the committee members for their review. Of the twenty, three administrators and three teacher assistants are on track for tenure. Once reviewed, they will be included in the packet for the board. There is no anticipation of any further retirement notifications other than the four received thus far. Anticipated staffing needs will include postings for two special education teachers, one ENL teacher and one guidance counselor. An additional music teacher position will be replaced due to a resignation.

Discussion: Facilities Usage Policy

A discussion was held at the recent Budget and Facilities Committee regarding whether to allow JCC to expand its afterschool childcare program. The committee is recommending that they pay a roster fee each semester. The district policy 1500 on Use of School Facilities would need to be amended prior to July 1st so that notifications can be sent to the organizations and the district rate schedule can reflect the changes. Two additional bullet points to be added at the end of the policy on page 2 under the heading of Fees was recommended by Mary Callahan:

--After school childcare programs which are held in district facilities , such as the JCC and Kids' Port, are subject to a semester based roster fee the same as are volunteer-led youth groups.

--Port Summer Camp will pay a roster fee for each of two summer sessions.

Elaine Fenick received the following questions from the Policy and Personnel Committee:

- Including roster fee per registration period or an option to include that in the contract?
- How many kids are in program?
- Do they pay for custodians?
- Do scholarship children pay the roster fee?

Transgender Policy Update

Schreiber High School has created a gender neutral bathroom in the school for the students. Locker room issues are being addressed and new lockers are forthcoming. Every effort will be made to accommodate students who would like their name changed unofficially. All legal documents, however, need to bear the students' legal name. Students wishing to change their legal name would need to go through the legal process. The Gay/Straight Alliance, Mr. Pernick as well as guidance counselors have been supporting and educating staff, students and families to be more accommodating and accepting of transgender students. To address the transgender issues, Howard Miller, Esq. advised that a policy should not be created at this time. The law is still evolving. A recommendation, however, was made to include language from the NYSSBA Sample Policy 0100 and to amend the existing policies, Equal Employment Opportunity and Equal Educational Opportunities. The language to include ...gender (including gender identity and expression). A first reading was proposed.

Community Comments/Concerns:

- Reasons for increased enrollment due to larger cohorts including students transferring from private schools, coming from other countries and younger families moving into the district.
- Mr. Pernick is following up with department chairs concerning returning of tests at Schreiber High School.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Next Meeting: March 18, 2016