

MEETING NOTES
HUMAN RESOURCES/POLICY COMMITTEE
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
February 1, 2024

A meeting of the Human Resources (HR)/Policy Committee of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at 2:00 PM on Thursday, February 1, 2024, at the School Service Center, 130 W Park Ave, Wheaton, IL.

PRESENT

Board Members: Ms. Julie Kulovits
Ms. Angela Blatner

Staff: Dr. Jeff Schuler, Superintendent
Mr. Matt Biscan, Asst. Superintendent for Administrative Services
Ms. Melissa Murphy, Asst. Superintendent for Educational Services
Dr. Chris Silagi, Asst. Superintendent for Student Services
Mr. Jason Spencer, Executive Director of Innovation & Technology
Ms. Erica Ekstrom, Executive Director of Special Education
Ms. Deanna Warchol, Health Services Department Chair

Discussion of Fall 2023 PRESS Issue 113

Dr. Schuler and the committee reviewed the two remaining policies from PRESS Issue 113. There was discussion on the following revised policy recommendations:

- 7:270 - removed recommended language related to keeping an undesignated supply of oxygen tanks. Inserted language related to a supply of undesignated asthma medication/inhalers. There was discussion on where the supply would be kept in the buildings, BASP access to the supply, and the possibility of access for athletic teams/trainers to be explored with the high schools; the need to be careful in the respiratory space and call 911 as needed; pediatric size masks.
- 6:230 - Dr. Schuler spoke to the PRESS attorney to understand the origin of this proposed language change - there was a change in the law. PRESS felt this was best practice and the recommended change was to bolster the strength of the language - adhering to the principles of the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights. The required language specifically in the law is required if we are going to accept money from the state school library grant.

The above policies will appear on the February Board agenda to post for public review and comment.

Review of ISBE Student Discipline Improvement Plan

Dr. Schuler and Mr. Biscan noted that ISBE requires Districts that have been in the top 20% for exclusionary discipline to submit a Discipline Improvement Plan. This includes District 200. There was information on the following:

- How Districts qualify for the top 20% of exclusionary discipline - one of three ways. D200 is part of this list due to the rate of exclusionary discipline for students of color being disproportionate to the rate for white students.
- Once a District is identified and part of that list, it takes three consecutive years of having corrected that trend to be removed from the list.
- The annual process required by ISBE to submit a plan identifying the strategies the District will implement to reduce discipline disproportionately to both ISBE and the Board and to post the plan on the District website.

There was information and/or discussion on the following:

- The makeup of the D200 Discipline Improvement Plan Team.
- The potential action plan to reduce the use of exclusionary discipline and/or racial disproportionality.
- The District has implemented quarterly meeting protocol with the high school and middle school administrative and support teams; utilizing 5Lab analytics tool and data to analyze trends and discuss individual students that may need additional support in order to productively intervene in student discipline issues. Creating goals for the building teams on supporting students.
- The use of out-of-school suspension - far less than in the past; buildings need to contact Administrative Services (Mr. Biscan) before issuing an out-of-school suspension.
- Proactive measures to help those students who need additional support and help; includes pairing students with a trusted adult; staff engaging with students and parents to redirect courses of action when possible.
- Having consistent data from the buildings.
- Students transitioning from fifth to sixth grade - focusing efforts here; creating a unified structure.
- In-school suspension is not counted as exclusionary discipline.
- ISBE introduced the plan to identify and monitor districts three years ago; What is being monitored by ISBE.
- D200 trend - has seen the gap narrow, but not closed.
- Niches to figure out/break down the different data points in the discipline study; relational patterns of performance in students that are experiencing higher levels of discipline issues; indicators tied to it include attendance patterns and academic success; trying to determine what is the antecedent.
- The use of the 5Lab analytical tool by D200 buildings to assist the building behavioral teams.
- The use of community partners to assist the District with behavioral/discipline issues; try to use in-house staff first.

The Discipline Improvement Plan will be on the February Board agenda for the full Board.

Review of Administrative Procedures Section 6

The current Administrative Procedures in each section are being reviewed by the HR/Policy Committee. It was noted the leadership team has reviewed each of the policies/procedures in the sections before presenting them to the committee. The committee reviewed the Administrative Procedures (AP) in section 6.

There was discussion on the Administrative Procedures for the following policies:

- 6:40 - faculty curriculum committees - there are various committees based on grade level/subject area.
- 6:70 - teaching religion in the context of the adopted curriculum vs. parent presentation on a specific religion.
- 6:120 - 80-page addendum that is housed on the IASB website, is also accessible to D200 teachers, and sits on the Student Services site that staff has access to; summer academy training of SPED admin. Section 504 rights and procedures is also on the Student Services site, public-facing on the D200 website under the 504 page. UGP (Uniform Grievance Procedure) reference in the 504 doc - works similar to when parents have concerns with an IEP; use of a duly qualified complaint manager; the Board would only see if it came to an appeal. The volume of students with 504s ebbs and flows; staff levels to handle these - noting the issues with staffing school psychologists, and the other staff that have helped when needed. The additional layer of support through the SPED directors at the elementary and middle school levels. Service animals - do not currently have one in our buildings.

- 6:150 - eligibility of students to participate in extracurricular activities when receiving home hospital instruction as transitioning back to school.
- 6:170 - two types of Title I programs (targeted and schoolwide); D200 buildings are all on schoolwide; grant allocation and what grant funds are used for; parent involvement requirement with Title I. There are six D200 Title I buildings.
- 6:230 - update on the D200 library selection AP - scheduling a meeting with the original committee to check in on the process; feedback from LLC directors; the number of books going through the District committee.
- 6:235 - blocking of websites when a student is at home; filters following students on their Chromebooks; Lightspeed and parent portal; blocking of sites for the whole level, but not for just a specific school at a given level.
- 6:255 - author visits from bookstores and advanced notice; opt-in procedure depending on the timeline; can check in with the committee reviewing library selection process to see if this is an issue.
- 6:310 - Board policy 6:60 was updated to reflect P.E. must occur 3-5 days per week, need to update the AP language for 6:310 on P.E. exemptions to reflect the change from Illinois mandating daily physical education.

The committee will review section 5 of the administrative procedures at the next meeting.

Public Comment

None

The meeting adjourned at 3:19 PM.