



**RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Board Secretary should receive this report one day after the meeting is held for distribution to the entire Board.

Committee: Policy Chairperson: Ron Conti

Date of Meeting: 10/17/2017 Time: 5:30 7:00
Start End

Board Members in Attendance:	Ms. Christine Aulenbach, Mr. Sheldon Epstein, Ms. Anne Standridge, Mr. Joseph Faranetta, and Committee Chair Ronald Conti.
Administrators in Attendance:	Miss Jenn Fano and Ms. Deborah Iosso, Principal of High School.
Others:	Ms. Jen Ganji, Ms. Kristi Linz, Mr. Tom Murphy, Mr. Brian Polumbo, Ms. Pat Robinson of Randolph Reporter, Mrs. Judy Stewart, Dr. Maryalice Thomas, and Chris Treaston. Board Counsel Mark Zitomer and John Allen Aggie Gerrety
Business Discussed	<p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <p><u>Policy 5530 Substance Abuse</u> (Board Counsel edits)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ D.1.c. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Board Counsel Mark Zitomer explained why he suggested adding 72 hours for results of test. ▪ <i>Question:</i> is 72 hours enough time? Mr. Zitomer says yes. ▪ D.1.d. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Board member Sheldon Epstein asked what happens if a student has a positive test but doctor says it does not affect the student's mental or physical abilities in school. How do we proceed? ▪ Board Counsel John Allen clarifies that the medical examination can be done before results are received. If the doctor feels the student can return to school without anything interfering with student ability to perform in school, then the student can return to school while he or she wait for the lab results. The lab result is

different from the medical examination.

- Principal Deborah Iosso explained how drug testing is different from a medical examination.
- *Question:* should the district test for cotinine and/or nicotine?
 - tabled for a future conversation among either administrator or policy committee.
- *Question:* does vaping count as paraphernalia?
 - Answer: yes

Regulation 5530 Substance Abuse: (based on Board Counsel Mark Zitomer recommended changes)

- G.2.a.iii.
 - *Question:* does G.2.a.iii suggest using breathalyzer?
 - *Answer:* It may in the future, but breathalyzer use will be governed by policy 5535. This is separate policy/discussion.
 - Board member Joseph Faranetta asked how we determine “each student” in a large event.
 - *Answer:* It is the administrator’s responsibility to decide which students are included in a group.
 - Miss Fano: it is tricky, but we need flexibility and a large part of the discussion.
- G.2.b.ii.
 - *Question:* can there be a larger time-frame or wiggle room from the time we send students out?
 - We have some wiggle room if there are extenuating circumstances. The time of the testing starts when the students are sent out for testing, and not when the administrators perform an informal observation, etc.
- G.2.c.
 - *Question:* can you specify where people go for testing?
 - *Answer:* the district is limited by law. If parents go to somewhere other than, the locations the district recommends (e.g. a private physician) then the parents pay the fee.
 - Board member Christine Aulenbach asked if we considered using school physician.
 - Miss Fano: our contract with the school physician does not

have that listed as one of their responsibilities. (The school physician is responsible for being on the field in case of an emergency or injury during the game.)

- Ms. Iosso added that she does not know of any districts that currently use a school physician, but is open to ideas.
- Concerning the discipline section of the regulation, Miss Fano mentioned that administrators have other ideas for discipline concerning administrators.
- Discussion tabled until next meeting.

Proposed Policy 5535 Passive Breath Alcohol Sensor Device

Principal Deborah Iosso reviewed previous policy discussion from 2016 stating:

- A breathalyzer is a deterrent, not a way to “get” kids.
- Spoke about Chatham’s history with drinking, how the policy has worked for them.
- Number of students at events did not change.
- Number of incidents of drinking at school dramatically decreased.

Ms. Iosso also mentioned how some other school districts besides Chatham were handling breathalyzers and/or alcohol abuse issues.

Board member Joseph Faranetta asked if this policy would require separate entrance for students.

- *Answer:* We need to work through those issues.

Board member Sheldon Epstein recapped previous concerns with breathalyzers (calibration, training, reliability, etc.)

Mr. Brian Polumbo is an administrator in a school district that uses breathalyzers, stated:

- That they researched which breathalyzers to purchase and all breathalyzers required training.
- He supports Principal Iosso’s idea to use breathalyzers.
- Students in his district are fully aware that they use breathalyzers. They also have a procedure in place for testing students.
- Since his district deployed the breathalyzer, they have had zero incidents.
- Policy is general enough for administrators to use it if they deem it should be used.

Policy committee agrees to move forward working on policy 5535.

Pending Business:	
Recommendations:	<p>Move P&R 5530 forward without discipline changes. After it passes, the policy committee will review discipline changes.</p> <p>At next meeting, committee will further discuss/edit policy 5535.</p>
Liaison Highlight:	<p>Policy committee is modifying the substance abuse policy and regulation P & R5530) in an effort to improve the policy and regulations quickly. We will revisit the discipline section after the second reading of P & R 5530.</p> <p>The committee also agreed to move forward with adding a breathalyzer policy P5535, but the policy is not ready for first reading yet.</p>

Contact person for additional information:

Name: Ron Conti email: ron.conti@gmail.com

Next Meeting:

Date: TBD Time: 6:00 Place: RHS/Media Library

Possible Topics:



Signature of Preparer

Date: 10/18/17