



Board of Education COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUGUST 11, 2022

Policy and Legislative Committee

The Policy and Legislative Committee met on Thursday, August 4, 2022, to review district investment activities; recording of board meetings; threat assessment teams; and other matters.

- 1. Investment activities:** The Committee discussed proposed Policy 6700, Investments, recommended by Business Administrator David Oliveira. It would establish a framework for the district's investment objectives, fiscally prudent practices, and regular reporting to the Board. The Committee approved the policy to move forward to the Board for first reading.
- 2. Live-streaming of Board meetings:** The Committee discussed possible revisions to Policy 0168, Recording Board Meetings, to address live-streaming by the public. The Committee agreed that live-streaming should be subject to the same restrictions presently in place for recording. A revised version of Policy 0168 will be presented at the next Committee meeting.
- 3. Religious expression by staff:** Mr. Rubin withdrew the matter from the agenda for further consideration in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in Kennedy v. Bremerton School District, which changed the legal standards for public employees' religious rights. A draft policy will return to the Committee for further consideration at a future meeting.

- 4. Threat assessment teams:** The Committee discussed the bill recently signed into law by Governor Murphy requiring school districts to create "threat assessment teams" to identify students posing a risk of violence or other harmful activities. School districts will be required to comply for the 2023-24 school year.

Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee met on Monday, August 1, 2022, to review designations for Rutgers dual-enrollment courses; updates to the curriculum guide; health and physical education initiatives; the learning acceleration guide; and textbook changes.

- 1. Dual-enrollment courses:** Rutgers University dual-enrollment courses Anatomy I for the Health Sciences, Anatomy II for the Health Sciences, and Dynamics of Healthcare in Society will receive honors designation moving forward to reflect the rigor of the courses. Students take exams and receive credits through Rutgers for these courses.
- 2. Curriculum guide updates:** District supervisors and department chairs presented updates to the curriculum guide made this summer. Updates were made to courses in math; visual and performing arts; science; diversity, equity & inclusion; world language/ESL; social studies; language arts; career and technical education; digital literacy/media technology; and physical education and health.
- 3. Comprehensive Health and Physical Education:** Dr. Baskerville and Julia Myatt presented information regarding comprehensive health and physical education initiatives to be in place in September. Information on personal growth and development and social and sexual health will be presented to students in Grades 2, 5, and 8 using age-appropriate terminology. Objectives and concise language will be given to parents, teachers, and students in advance. Parents will be allowed to opt out their child from one portion of the curriculum based on a family's beliefs. This is outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7.
- 4. Learning Acceleration Guide:** Dr. Baskerville presented the guide and shared that it provides test data for an entire year, clickable by grade in ELA, math, and chemistry/physical science. The guide identifies skills and knowledge that need

support to address deficits and accelerate learning.

- 5. Textbook Adoption:** The committee reviewed a list of textbooks to be added to curriculums for certain math, business, and health classes.