



# Board of Education COMMITTEE REPORTS

JULY 28, 2016

## School Culture and Climate Committee

*The School Culture & Climate Committee met on Tuesday, July 12, 2016 at 6:30 pm to discuss current projects and Student Resource Programs.*

1. Education Toolbox—This “go-to” educator’s toolbox contains best practice suggestions for all grade levels. The Committee reviewed the completed toolbox, which is available electronically for all administrators to review for implementation within their schools in the 2016-2017 school year.
2. Beautification Projects at Children’s Corner and other schools were reviewed.
3. The Committee discussed the new summer Jump Ahead program and its effects on at-risk students.
4. Additional discussion topics included cultivating a climate that increases educational standards, inclusion, and diversity, and expanding district outreach efforts and parent involvement.

## Policy and Legislative Committee

*The Policy and Legislative Committee met on Monday, July 18, 2016 to discuss policies under review and the transition to Strauss Esmay Policy Service.*

1. Policy 3153 School Activity Funds – Committee members accepted the Business Administrator’s comments regarding clearly established procedures for dealing with unused school activity funds. The committee agreed to submit the policy to the full Board for approval.
2. Policy 5756 Transgender Student Accommodation - The Committee continued discussion of transgender student rights, including the recent memo from the U.S. Department of Justice on the topic.
3. Transition to Strauss Esmay Policy Service – Strauss Esmay is beginning the transition. The Committee will review all policies, making note of all policies that are important or unique to our district for further discussion with the committee and counsel.
4. Legislative Update – Members Ira Stern and Tom Connors will meet with NJSBA legislative staff Chris Jones and Assemblyman Joe Danielsen on July 19 to discuss unfunded mandates, school formula funding proposals from Gov. Christie and Senator Sweeney, and problems with the possible shift of pension and health care costs to municipalities.

## Community Relations Committee

*The Community Relations Committee met via email to discuss working topics, including the Know Your Schools Newsletter and the "Our Inspiring Heroes" project.*

1. "Know Your Schools" newsletter was completed and delivered to all households in Piscataway in early July
2. An "Our Inspiring Heroes" press release was prepared in anticipation of the program launch. The verbiage in the press release will be used as a template for the website and other promotional efforts. Information will be shared with district administrators during Leadership Week in August, with a September Program Launch planned.
3. Social Media update: Current followers on Facebook: 439; on Twitter: 282.