

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Friday, April 12, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Board Office Conference Room

In Attendance: Nick Markarian, Robin McKeon, Janice Corrado, David Shaw, Keith Molinari

AGENDA

I. First Reading

1. [P 7438 - Lightning Safety \(New\)](#)

This policy related to lightning safety was discussed during the last policy meeting. There were no changes. There were some questions during the last meeting about the 30 minute requirement of going inside for any lightning so Mr. Markarian discussed it with all parties that would have to implement the policy and they said this is what is already followed in the district so there was no need to make any changes.

2. [Policy Alert 232 Summary](#)

A. “Managing for Equity in Education” Policy and Regulation Guides

The New Jersey State Board of Education readopted N.J.A.C. 6A:7 – Managing for Equity in Education, with revisions, which provides rules governing equity in educational programs to guarantee each student equal access to all educational programs, services, and benefits of their school district regardless of the student’s housing status, socioeconomic status, or immigration status, in addition to any protected category previously included in the rules.

The revised rule expands the list of protected categories that were previously included and now includes the additional protected categories currently recognized in NJLAD at N.J.A.C. 10-5.1 et seq. The revised policies removes the list of all the protected categories throughout the Policy and Regulation Guides and replaces the list with the phrase the protected categories.

Many of these Policy and Regulation Guides are mandated as they are required to be adopted by statute or administrative code or by the New Jersey Department of Education Comprehensive Equity Plan (CEP) Needs Assessment as required documentation or evidence to substantiate compliance with a provision in the CEP.

3. [P 1140 - Educational Equity Policies/Affirmative Action \(M\) \(Revised\)](#)

Most of the revisions in Policy Guide 1140 remove the list of protected categories and replace the list with the expanded list. These changes are mandated.

4. [P 1523 - Comprehensive Equity Plan \(M\) \(Revised\)](#)

The revisions to Policy Guide 1523 requires a district to develop a 3 year Comprehensive Equity Plan. This plan hasn't been updated since 2016. The updated CEP is most likely going to be required for the 24/25 year and it is a long process which includes a lot of data gathering by the district. These changes are mandated.

5. [P 1530 - Equal Employment Opportunities \(M\) \(Revised\)](#)

The revisions in Policy Guide 1530 remove the list of protected categories and replace the list with the expanded list. These changes are mandated.

6. [R 1530 - Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Procedure \(M\) \(Revised\)*](#)

The revisions in Regulation Guide 1530 provide some additional guidance for the complaint procedure. The complaint may now be reported in person; in writing; by telephone; by mail to the office; or by email. These changes are mandated.

7. [P 1550 - Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices \(M\) \(Revised\)](#)

Most of the revisions in Policy Guide 1550 remove the list of protected categories and replace the list with the expanded list. These changes are mandated.

8. [R 2200 - Curriculum Content \(M\) \(Revised\)*](#)

One revision in Regulation Guide 2200 removes the list of protected categories and replaces the list with the expanded list. In addition, the majority of the rest of the policy was deleted and replaced with the following, "The Superintendent or designee shall develop a procedure to address and eliminate any possible bias in the curriculum." Mr. Markarian will gather further explanation of this change. These changes are mandated.

9. [P 2260 - Equity in School and Classroom Practices \(M\) \(Revised\)](#)

The revisions in Policy Guide 2260 include the relocation of information addressing access to adequate counseling services to Policy Guide 2411 and also align with the recent revisions in N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.7. Mr. Markarian will gather further explanation of this change. These changes are mandated.

10. [R 2260 - Equity in School and Classroom Practices Complaint Procedure \(M\) \(Revised\)*](#)

The revisions in Regulation Guide 2260 provide additional guidance for a person filing a complaint. A complaint procedure is required. These changes are mandated.

11. [P 2411 - Guidance Counseling \(M\) \(Revised\)](#)

The revisions in Policy Guide 2411 provide some additional details regarding student access to adequate counseling services. These changes are mandated.

12. [P 3211 - Code of Ethics \(Revised\)](#)

The only revision in Policy Guide 3211 removes the list of protected categories and replaces the list with the expanded list. These changes are recommended.

13. [P 5570 - Sportsmanship \(Revised\)](#)

Policy Guide 5570 has been updated to align with the 2023-2024 NJSIAA General Information Constitution By-Laws Rules and Regulations. Other revisions in Policy Guide 5570 include removing two optional provisions for determining unsportsmanlike conduct and removing the list of protected categories and replacing the list with the expanded list. These changes are recommended.

14. [P 5750 - Equitable Educational Opportunity \(M\) \(Revised\)](#)

Reference to the Amistad Commission Curriculum and the Commission on Holocaust Education curriculum has been removed from Policy Guide 5750 as these curricula are referenced in Policy Guide 2260. The other revisions in Policy Guide 5750 remove the list of protected categories and replace the list with the expanded list. These changes are mandated.

15. [P 5755 - Equity in Educational Programs and Services \(M\) \(Abolished\)](#)

Policy Guide 5755 has been abolished as all of the information within Policy Guide 5755 is addressed elsewhere. This change is recommended as it is redundant.

16. [P 5842 - Equal Access of Student Organizations \(Revised\)](#)

Policy Guide 5842 has been revised to remove #3 in the list and to address staff involvement in student organizations. Other revisions in Policy Guide 5842 remove the list of protected categories and replace the list with the expanded list. These changes are recommended.

17. [P 7610 - Vandalism \(Revised\)](#)

18. [R 7610 - Vandalism \(Revised\)*](#)

Policy and Regulation Guides 7610 have been updated to remove the list of protected categories and replace the list with the expanded list. Regulation Guide 7610 removes the specific list of violations and includes notification to law enforcement in accordance with applicable laws which we already practice. Policy and Regulation Guides 7610 have also been updated to address acts of graffiti in which a Court can order the student to pay restitution to the district and assign community service requiring the student to remove the graffiti. These changes are recommended.

19. [P 9323 - Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition \(Revised\)](#)

Policy Guide 9323 has been updated to align with N.J. statutes. One of the revisions to Policy Guide 9323 involves a list of protected categories which is enumerated in N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60. A confidentiality statement has been added to Policy Guide 9323. These changes are recommended.

B. General Policy and Regulation Guide Updates

20. [P 2423 - Bilingual Education \(M\) \(Revised\)](#)

21. [R 2423 - Bilingual Education \(M\) \(Revised\)*](#)

The New Jersey State Board of Education adopted changes to N.J.A.C. 6A:15 and the requirements for Bilingual Education in public school districts. The recent amendments address the services multilingual learners (previously called English language learners) need to meet or exceed the New Jersey Student Learning Standards to reach graduation and postsecondary

success. The four key areas with revisions are definitions, identification, organization, and additional requirements of a school district. These changes are mandated.

22. [P 2431.4 - Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries \(M\) \(Revised\)](#)
23. [R 2431.4 - Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries \(M\) \(Revised\)](#)

The New Jersey Department of Education, Division of Educational Services Office of Student Support Services released a new “Model Policy and Guidance for Districts on the Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Head Injuries and Concussions” (Guidance). The revisions to Policy and Regulation Guides 2431.4 are aligned with the most current recommendations developed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). These changes are mandated.