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**Lacey Township School District Board of Education
Policy Committee Meeting
Co-Curricular, Safety & Security, LTASA**

AGENDA - August 7, 2024 @ 4:15 pm - Virtual Via Google Meets

Jack Conaty, **Chairperson**
Kim Klaus
Dan Bell

Skip Peters, Alternate
Vanessa R. Pereira - Superintendent

Discussion

- Letters for Performing Arts Students

Principal King is working on criteria for a first read at a later date.

New Policy/Regulations for Review and/or Discussion:

- R 2624 - Grading System - Revised

Revised to include standard-based report cards, revise grade banding, and revise Safety Net procedure.

- P 0141 - Board Member Number and Term - Revised

*Bylaw Guide 0141 addresses the number and term of Board members and the term of Board members filling a Board vacancy. Bylaw Guides 0141.1 and 0141.2 have been completely rewritten to provide additional details of the statutes governing Boards in a send-receive relationship. Bylaw Guide 0141 for districts not in a send-receive relationship was not rewritten and includes strikethrough and bold revisions. A separate Bylaw Guide 0143 addresses the detailed process to be used by a Board when filling a vacancy and is not affected by the revisions in Bylaw Guides 0141, 0141.1, and 0141.2. A Board sending students to a district under a send-receive relationship should adopt Bylaw 0141.1, a Board receiving students under a send-receive relationship should adopt Bylaw 0141.2, and a Board not in a send-receive relationship should adopt Bylaw 0141. **RECOMMENDED***

- P 0164.6 - Remote Public Board Meetings During a Declared Emergency - Abolished

Legislation was approved during the COVID-19 pandemic that authorized the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to promulgate emergency regulations, codified at N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 through 1.7, establishing required protocols for a public Board of Education to conduct remote public Board meetings during a Governor-declared state of emergency. In response, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJCA) published Local Finance Notice, LFN 2020-21 – September 24, 2020 – New Emergency Regulations: Remote Public Meetings Held During a Declared Emergency to provide

guidance on the new regulations (N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 through 1.7). Strauss Esmay developed Bylaw Guide 0164.6 that was aligned with the emergency administrative code, N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1. These emergency regulations are now expired and Bylaw Guide 0164.6 should be abolished. Strauss Esmay has received inquiries from school districts as to whether a Board may conduct remote meetings or some version of hybrid in-person/remote Board meetings when there is not a declared emergency. Strauss Esmay recently requested an opinion from the NJDCA asking if remote Board meetings that were permitted during the COVID-19 declared emergency are still permitted, and if so, would the same protocols that were included in the emergency regulations be used. Furthermore, Strauss Esmay also requested clarification from the NJDCA if such a remote Board meeting is permitted under the Open Public Meetings Act. A Board that wants to consider conducting hybrid in-person/remote Board meetings should consult their Board Attorney. In the interim, the Board should abolish Bylaw Guide 0164.6 as the emergency administrative code that was adopted permitting remote Board meetings during the COVID-19 declared emergency has expired. Strauss Esmay is monitoring this issue and will provide policy guidance upon receiving legal authority from the State for a Board to conduct remote Board meetings. **ABOLISHED**

- **P 2200 - Curriculum Content (M) - Revised**

Policy Guide 2200 has been revised to remove a list referencing numerous New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS). This list did not include all the standards, and since NJSLS standards are continually changing, it is appropriate to remove reference to specific NJSLS standards from Policy Guide 2200. Removal of the list avoids Policy Guide 2200 becoming non-compliant if any of the listed standards were to change or additional standards are added. Strauss Esmay is also updating any reference to “New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards” to “New Jersey Student Learning Standards” whenever a Policy or Regulation Guide is revised or newly developed and included in a Policy Alert. If an existing Policy or Regulation Guide still references “New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards,” it is because the Guide has not been revised in a Policy Alert since the change to “New Jersey Student Learning Standards.” Strauss Esmay previously addressed this issue by revising Bylaw Guide 0000.02 to add the following definition: “Core Curriculum Content Standards” means the “New Jersey Student Learning Standards.” This definition ensures anytime an existing Policy or Regulation Guide references standards from the “New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards” it means standards from the “New Jersey Student Learning Standards.” This also eliminates the need for a Board to revise a policy or regulation just to revise this term because eventually all statutes, administrative codes, and Policy and Regulation Guides will reference the “New Jersey Student Learning Standards.” The current Comprehensive Equity Plan – Section III. – A. requires a Board policy to substantiate compliance making Policy Guide 2200 mandated. To substantiate compliance with the current Comprehensive Equity Plan – Section III. – A., a Board is required to adopt a policy to ensure curriculum and instruction are aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. **MANDATED**

- **P/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 to N.J.A.C. 6A:15 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 of N.J.A.C. 6A:15 with revisions are definitions, identification, organization, and additional requirements of a school district. The title has also been updated. Policy and Regulation Guides 2423 have been rewritten in order to align with the revisions to N.J.A.C. 6A:15 and should replace a Board’s existing Policy and Regulation Guides 2423. Policy and Regulation Guides 2423 are mandated as stated in N.J.S.A. 18A:35-15 through 35-26.1, N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.1, and are also a requirement in the Comprehensive Equity Plan – Section III. **MANDATED**

- **P/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). Policy and Regulation Guides 2431.4 have been rewritten to align with the provisions of the new Guidance and should replace a Board’s existing Policy and Regulation Guides 2431.4. 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). Adoption of Policy and Regulation Guides 2431.4 will ensure a school district is in compliance with the statutory requirement to maintain a policy that is aligned to the most current recommendations developed by the CDC. Policy and Regulation Guides 2431.4 are mandated as N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.3 requires a school district develop a written policy for prevention and treatment of concussions and sports-related head injuries if a school district has programs of athletic competition as defined in Policy Guide 2431.4 or if a school district permits a “youth sports team organization” to use district facilities in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.5. Policy and Regulation Guides 2431.4 should be adopted by the Board. **MANDATED**

- **P 5350 Student Suicide Prevention (M)- Revised**

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-112 was recently revised to include several new statute sections. The new requirements are as follows: training requirements for additional staff members; the requirement for any staff required by N.J.S.A. 18A:6-112 to be trained to warn and protect when they have information that a student intends to harm themselves; and a requirement to notify all staff who are required to be trained in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-112 of the district’s reporting and suicide prevention, awareness, and response protocols. Policy Guide 5350 has been updated to reflect the revisions to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-112. Policy Guide 5350 is mandated as N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11.1 requires a Board to adopt policies and procedures for staff to report attempted or completed suicides. **MANDATED**

- **P/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 as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1(a). Regulation Guide 7610 removes the specific list of violations and includes notification to law enforcement in accordance with applicable laws. Policy and Regulation Guides 7610 have also been updated to address acts of graffiti as N.J.S.A. 2C:33-10 provides for a Court to order the student to pay restitution to the district and assign community service requiring the student to remove the graffiti. **RECOMMENDED**

- **P 8420 - Emergency and Crisis Situations (M) - Revised**

P.L. 2023 c.212 was signed into law on January 8, 2024, revising existing statutes N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1; 18A:41-7; App.A:9-86; and creating new statute sections N.J.S.A. 18A:41-15 and 18A:46-2.15. N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1 now provides that all students and staff shall fully participate in each fire drill or school security drill conducted to the greatest extent practicable and to ensure that participation does not pose a safety risk to any individual involved. New language added to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-7 requires current staff training for school security be updated to include procedures for accommodating students with disabilities during drills and emergency situations. N.J.S.A. App.A:9-86 adds the Commissioner of Education shall update the current drill guide and training materials disseminated to school districts to incorporate information on the needs of students with disabilities and include standard protocols and procedures for accommodating these students during drills and emergency situations. N.J.S.A. 18A:46-2.15 requires a written plan detailing supports, modifications, accommodations, or services to allow safe and full participation in a drill or emergency situation be included in a student’s individualized education program, individualized health care plan, 504 plan, or service plan. N.J.S.A. 18A:41-15 requires school districts to demonstrate consideration and incorporation of the individual needs of each student with a disability into the district wide school safety and security plan. Policy Guide 8420 has been updated to include the requirement of school safety and security plans to address the unique needs of students with disabilities during fire drills, school security drills, and emergency situations. Policy Guide 8420 is mandated as N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1 requires a district to develop and

implement plans, procedures, and mechanisms that provide for the safety and security in the district's schools and that those plans, procedures, and mechanisms be in written form. **MANDATED**

- P 9181 - Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants - Revised

*The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) updated their Guidance for Tuberculosis (TB) Testing in New Jersey Schools (2023 Guidance). The NJDOH's justification for the update is to limit TB screening in New Jersey schools to teachers/other employees and only those students who are at the highest risk for TB infection. The revisions in the 2023 Guidance limit or reduce some of the screening requirements recommended in the 2016 Guidance. Policy Guide 9181 had optional language for a volunteer athletic coach and/or co-curricular advisor/assistant to provide documentation that they were screened for TB. This optional language has been removed from Policy Guide 9181 and a statement has been added indicating volunteers "will be screened for tuberculosis in accordance with the current NJDOH Guidance for Tuberculosis (TB) Testing in New Jersey Schools." The 2023 Guidance indicates screening is not recommended for volunteers working with students for less than twenty hours per month. A district that does not want to comply with the recommendations in the 2023 NJDOE Guidance for TB screening of volunteer athletic coaches and co-curricular advisors/assistants may remove this provision from the Policy Guide. Any revisions to the NJDOH 2023 Guidance should be reviewed by the school nurses and the school physician. The other revision in Policy Guide 9181 indicates the Superintendent or designee will be responsible for the training of volunteers. **RECOMMENDED***

- P 9323 - Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition - Revised

*Policy Guide 9323 has been updated to align with N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60, N.J.S.A. 53:1-15, and N.J.S.A. 53:1-20.6. 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, and although this list does not include all of those categories listed in N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1(a), Strauss Esmay believes this list still addresses equity in the schools. A confidentiality statement has been added to Policy Guide 9323. **RECOMMENDED***

Co-Curricular - No agenda items to discuss

Safety and Security - No agenda items to discuss

LTASA - No agenda items to discuss

Other - No agenda items to discuss

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 11, 2024 @ 4:15 pm