# **ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION Policy Review and Development Committee Meeting**

# October 13, 2016

## **MINUTES**

#### Attendance

<u>Commissioners</u> – Commissioner Willa Powell (Chair) and Commissioner Mary Adams

<u>District Staff</u> – Steve Carling, General Counsel; Keith Babuczszak, Executive Director of Career & Technical Education

Commissioner Powell called the meeting to order at 5:33PM.

# I. Review Minutes of September 8, 2016 Policy Committee Meeting

**Motion** by Commissioner Adams to approve the minutes of September 8, 2016 Policy Committee Meeting. **Adopted 2-0**.

# II. Review Policy Deliverables (i.e. Evaluations of Policies)

## A. Wellness Policy (5405)

Steve Carling reported that Carlos Cotto reviewed the existing Wellness policy, but was unable to attend this evening's meeting because he is out of town.

Commissioner Powell requested an update regarding the Wellness policy from Commissioner Adams, who is the Chair of the district-wide Wellness Committee.

Commissioner Adams reported that the Wellness Committee has been examining this policy, and has some recommended revisions. She stated that some of the recommendations are to establish Superintendent regulation or other mechanisms, rather than expanding the policy to the point where it may become unwieldy.

## Overview of Wellness Committee Recommendations:

- Strengthen the provisions of the Physical Education and Physical Activity section of the policy
- Emphasize access to high-quality water in the Nutrition section of the policy
- Add a section regarding Family & Community Involvement
- In the section regarding student involvement in food/menu selection and participation in Food Services, stipulate that this group is to meet on a regular basis.

Commissioner Adams noted that Dina Fettacone, Coordinator of the Healthi Kids Initiative, has performed a considerable amount of work regarding nutrition and physical activity in the District. She stated that Ms. Fettacone was the primary proponent of some of the recommended policy changes.

Commissioner Adams explained that Food Services' initiatives began in the elementary schools, and have demonstrated positive results. She stated that the members of the Wellness Committee would like to see these efforts expanded and operationalized throughout the District.

Commissioner Adams reported that the Wellness Committee discussed a proposal to prohibit adults from eating foods of poor nutritional quality in front of students (e.g. McDonalds, soda). Committee members agreed with the intent of the proposal in terms of adults serving as role models for children, but decided against including this prohibition in the policy. Instead, it was decided that a provision should be added to encourage school staff to be mindful of their food choices and of the food eaten in front of students.

Mr. Carling added that staff members cannot be banned from eating certain types of foods.

Commissioner Adams pointed out that there has already been significant resistance toward the existing Wellness policy, particularly in offering only healthy snacks in vending machines and school stores.

Commissioner Adams stated that she will forward the specific suggested edits to the policy from the Wellness Committee to the members of the Policy Committee.

Commissioner Adams commented on the policy evaluation submitted by Mr. Cotto, noting that schools' failure to implement recess is a major concern. She stated that parents' reports indicate that recess is sometimes withheld as a disciplinary tool, which is in direct conflict with the policy. She suggested addressing this issue through regulation, greater visibility and education, particularly with school chiefs and principals to recognize that recess is a priority. Commissioner Adams stated that widespread violations of this aspect of the Wellness policy have been reported, even in some of the schools that have received grants from the Greater Rochester Health Foundation. The members of the Wellness Committee recommend that the recess issue be addressed through Superintendent regulation.

Another major concern cited by the Wellness Committee is proper implementation of the Elementary Health Education curriculum that has been mandated by the NYS Education Department. Commissioner Adams noted that a considerable amount of resources and training have been provided, but the curriculum still has not been carried out with fidelity or on a consistent basis.

Commissioner Adams reported that Audrey Korokeyi, Director of Health Education, has offered a draft to update the sexual reproductive health aspect of the Wellness policy. She stated that Ms. Korokeyi collaborated with Kim McLaughlin from BOCES in the Genesee Valley Educational Partnership, and both are subject-matter experts in this field.

<u>Action Item:</u> Ensure that Audrey Korokeyi is included in the review of proposed revisions to the Wellness policy, particularly the section regarding sexual/reproductive health.

Commissioner Powell stated that Mr. Cotto's evaluation of the Wellness policy referred to three primary areas "which have a persistent need" based on school visits and the results of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, but the three areas are not specified and it is uncertain as to how these needs would be addressed effectively through policy changes.

<u>Action Item:</u> Mr. Carling will follow up with Mr. Cotto to obtain further information about the three primary aspects of the Wellness policy cited as having a "persistent need", and convey this information to the members of the Policy Committee.

Commissioner Adams stated that if she had to guess the specific policy aspects to which Mr. Cotto refers in his evaluation, she would surmise that this includes recess, nutrition and access to high-quality water, and sexual/reproductive health. She noted that the sexual/reproductive health section of the policy was not identified as an issue either as a result of school walkthroughs or the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Mr. Carling pointed out that Mr. Cotto has reported concerns about recess and nutrition a number of times.

Commissioner Adams added that work is ongoing to address violations of nutrition standards in a number of schools that were found to offer junk food and participate in candy sales.

Commissioner Powell noted that to the extent that problems in implementing the Wellness policy are due to limited resources, further analysis can be conducted to determine the amount and types of resources needed to bring schools into compliance. These analyses could then be presented during the budget development process, since policies reflect the priorities established by the Board and therefore should also be reflected in the budget. She suggested that a list be compiled of all policies requiring funding or resources, so that the fiscal implications can be examined.

Mr. Carling stated that he would like additional information from Mr. Cotto about his comments regarding the need for resources.

Commissioner Powell noted that these issues have to be discussed with the leaders of each school to identify the specific factors affecting the lack of compliance with the policy. She suggested that some smaller schools have an assistant principal, which may facilitate offering recess on a regular basis.

Commissioner Adams observed that priority schools with School Improvement Grants tend to have higher staffing levels and may find it easier to fit recess into their schedules.

Mr. Carling commented that at the elementary level, recess is teachers' responsibility and part of their time with students. He added that recess is supposed to be provided for students before or after lunch, and does not interfere with teachers' planning time.

Commissioner Adams reported that the Wellness Committee members decided to invite the Wellness champion from each school to a Committee meeting in January or February 2017 to discuss barriers to implementing the policy. She stated that the School Chiefs and the Deputy Superintendent for Teaching & Learning will also be invited.

Commissioner Powell stated that if the representatives from schools that are out of compliance also fail to attend these meetings, this can be reported to the Superintendent as a lack of commitment to the policy.

<u>Action Item:</u> Revisions to the Wellness policy (5405) will be drafted based on the recommendations provided by Carlos Cotto, Executive Director of Health Education and Physical Education, and by the members of the Wellness Committee. This consolidated draft will be presented to the Policy Committee for consideration.

# **B.** School-To-Work Transition Policy (4314.2)

Commissioner Powell reported receiving a detailed memo and evaluation of the School-To-Work Transition policy from Keith Babuczszak, Executive Director of Career & Technical Education. Mr. Babuczszak also provided a handout presentation to Committee members.

Mr. Babuczszak explained that the District has been preparing to submit seven Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs to the NYS Education Department for approval/reapproval. He reported that five existing programs are subject to re-approval, which is required every five years: carpentry, masonry, electrical, advertising design, and automotive technology. Two new CTE programs have been developed: Computer-Assisted Design & Drafting, and Digital Video Production. Mr. Babuczszak stated that these two programs will be presented to the Excellence in Student Achievement Committee and to the Board this month because the deadline for submission to the NYS Education Department is before Thanksgiving.

Mr. Babuczszak described four career pathways at Edison High School:

- 1. Construction and architecture design
- 2. Advanced manufacturing and engineering
- 3. Digital media arts and communication
- 4. P-TECH

Mr. Babuczszak noted having four programs within each of these pathways works best from an operational and staffing perspective. He reported that the District is considering establishing a welding program at Edison High School because this program was quite successful in the past and the school already has a shop, albeit closed. Mr. Babuczszak stated that the program would offer specialization in industrial and sculptural welding.

Mr. Babuczszak commented that the District would also like to bring culinary arts back to Edison High School.

Mr. Babuczszak reported that two shared-time electives have also been created, which are available to all students in the District: an automotive course and a construction course. Students attend either or both of these classes in the morning, and are transported to their home school for the remainder of the day. Mr. Babuczszak pointed out that these shared-time courses have been offered in an effort to expand CTE throughout the District.

## Update on other CTE programs:

- 1. Cosmetology program: full enrollment with a new cohort of 20 students, who will remain in the program for the next two years.
- 2. Career Pathways to Public Safety: this program continues to strengthen and expand, and a certified teacher has been added to provide instruction in emergency communication and emergency medical services (EMS).
- 3. Courses in financial management and college readiness: offered in collaboration with Rochester Educational Opportunity Center (REOC).

Commissioner Powell commented on the proposal for a new welding program, noting that Joel Klein of Klein Steel has initiated innovations at his plant and may be able to provide some insight into emerging aspects of this field. Commissioner Powell questioned the obsolescence of the equipment in the welding shop at Edison High School. Mr. Babuczszak replied that the equipment is not very obsolete and quite usable, so that restarting the program will not require much resources. He stated that planning meetings have been scheduled to discuss needs and strategies for implementation to begin the program in September 2017.

Mr. Carling pointed out that welding is a high-demand occupation. Commissioner Powell stated that Joel Klein has reported difficulties in finding prospective employees with welding skills.

Mr. Babuczszak noted that the welding program at BOCES focuses on metal sculpture because of greater student interest in this aspect of the field. He added that the District is strengthening work-based learning, having added a second Work-Based Learning Coordinator to assist students in earning credits for job experience and internships. Mr. Babuczszak stated that one of the Work-Based Coordinators at Edison High School is dedicated to helping students with disabilities to strengthen their work experience and career opportunities, through programs with Unity Health, Foodlink, and other community organizations.

Mr. Babuczszak discussed opportunities for students to use work-based learning instead of one of the two Social Studies Regents exams, adding that his department has been providing support to schools in this endeavor. He reported collaborating with a committee that includes representatives from Rochester Works, Hillside, and the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce to identify more options within this pathway. Mr. Babuczszak stated that this committee is part of a larger team that created a work-based continuum last year and has been promoting benefits for employers in hiring or offering internships to students.

Mr. Babuczszak noted that the District has acquired quite a bit of equipment through grants, particularly in upgrading the advanced manufacturing lab. He stated that the District will have 5-6 CNC machines after all of the equipment has been purchased, and operation of these machines requires very high-tech programming skills. Mr. Babuczszak reported that Monroe County donated one of the machines and the remainder will be purchased by the District with funding from economic development grants.

Commissioner Powell inquired whether the District receives NYS Aid for shared-time CTE programs. Mr. Babuczszak replied that the students attending these courses are from the District, and the Aid is tied to the students.

Commissioner Powell recalled that the District was required by the NYS Education Commissioner to send some of the students from East High School to BOCES for CTE courses. Mr. Babuczszak clarified that the directive from the NYS Education Commissioner states that students must be able to take CTE courses in schools that are not in priority or focus status. He explained that this is the reason that the leadership of East High School sends their students to BOCES, but it is actually a choice.

Commissioner Powell observed that this interpretation of the directive was at least partially due to the NYS Education Commissioner requiring the Buffalo City School District to send all of their students to BOCES for CTE courses. She asked whether choices are available to RCSD students because the District has a robust CTE program. Mr. Babuczszak responded that a specific decision was made with regard to the Buffalo School District, which did apply to Rochester. Edison High School has been considered a school in good standing, but data from several years ago led to it being deemed a priority school this year. He added that sending students to BOCES for CTE courses does not preclude them from attending shared-time programs at Edison High School.

Commissioner Adams pointed out that P-TECH is for students in 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade and beyond, while all of the other CTE programs are for students in grades 9-12. She inquired about access points for students new to the District or who decide to pursue a vocational track. Commissioner Adams asked about the criteria for students to transfer into CTE programs at each grade level. Mr. Babuczszak explained that 9<sup>th</sup> grade students rotate through three of the four career pathways (i.e. construction and architecture design, advanced manufacturing and engineering, and digital media arts and communication) to facilitate their selection of one particular pathway by the end of the year. In 10<sup>th</sup> grade, students rotate through all of the program options within their chosen career pathway. Mr. Babuczszak stated that a student transferring into a CTE program in 9<sup>th</sup> grade would be placed in foundations courses. A student entering the program in 10<sup>th</sup> grade would be placed in one of the three pathways, as long as space is available. He noted that a full range of options would need to be explored for a student transferring into the CTE program in 11<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. Babuczszak pointed out that shared-time courses are offered to provide access to CTE courses for students not enrolled at Edison High School.

Commissioner Adams asked whether the School-To-Work Transition policy addresses the issue of equity in accessing CTE programs in the District. Mr. Babuczszak responded that the preamble to the policy discusses equity in student participation in CTE programs, but the metrics do not reflect this as a priority. He stated that he would like to revise this aspect of the policy.

Commissioner Powell inquired whether Mr. Babuczszak had some suggested language in mind for amending the policy. Mr. Babuczszak stated that he does not have any draft revisions at this point, but would work with the members of the Policy Committee to develop a draft.

Commissioner Powell noted that the revised policy should clearly state opportunities for students to access CTE programs by the time that students participate in school choice for the 2017-18 school year. Mr. Babuczszak replied that he is already preparing materials for the school choice

process, so it should not be a problem to draft these policy revisions in time. He added that updating the policy would lend support to the way in which the District plans career pathways and empower principals to make choices in their buildings.

<u>Action Item:</u> Mr. Babuczszak will prepare draft revisions to the School-To-Work Transition policy (4314.2) to present to the Policy Committee in advance of the 2017-18 school choice process.

Commissioner Powell pointed out that CTE and the School-To-Work Transition policy represent the entryway at the secondary level into a particular school or program. She noted that all other schools base student placement on the lottery, except for the School of the Arts and the International Baccalaureate program at Wilson Commencement Academy. Commissioner Powell stated that the focus of the policy should be on the choices of students and parents to advance their goals. Mr. Babuczszak clarified that his reference to empowering principals was with respect to choices of CTE pathways in their schools and not limiting CTE to Edison High School. He stated that the Superintendent has emphasized the importance of having pathways available to students throughout the District.

## C. Financial Reports & Resolutions Policy (6630)

Commissioner Powell observed that the Quarterly Report of Contracts under \$35K is almost impossible to read. Commissioner Adams inquired whether this report has been provided to the Policy Committee in the past.

Commissioner Powell noted that this report has not been provided to the Policy Committee before, and was probably done because it is considered a policy deliverable. She stated that the Policy Committee reviews the policy rather than the detailed report.

Mr. Carling stated that the Quarterly Report of Contracts under \$35K was actually due a while ago and should be reviewed by the Finance Committee. He added that the Financial Reports & Resolutions policy mandates that this report be provided to the Board every quarter.

Commissioner Powell questioned whether the Financial Reports & Resolutions policy (6630) is in need of revision. She recalled that the current Financial Reports & Resolutions policy was drafted at a time when there was some suspicion that the Superintendent was issuing multiple contracts to the same vendor just under the dollar threshold to avoid obtaining Board approval. Mr. Carling noted that his understanding as General Counsel is that if an addendum is made to a contract that would bring the total cost above the \$35K threshold, it would have to be submitted to the Board for approval.

#### III. Review and Discuss Recommendations for Revising Series 2000 Policies

## A. School-Based Planning Policy (2265)

Mr. Carling reported reviewing the series 2000 policies and researching school-based planning to respond to a number of questions that were raised in the last Policy Committee meeting. He specified that NYS regulations and the NYS Education Department General Counsel's opinion

were examined to identify the required elements of school-based planning policy. Mr. Carling stated that the Board is simply required to establish a school-based planning policy that includes:

- The educational issues subject to school-based planning;
- The degree and extent of involvement of all parties in school-based planning; and
- The means and standards by which all parties are to evaluate improvements in student achievement

Mr. Carling pointed out that the legal requirements do not dictate the specific provisions to be included in the policy, but only stipulate that the policy must address each of the above areas. He stated that the existing policy does meet these requirements, and any changes must be reviewed by each stakeholder group. Approval of each stakeholder group is not required for adoption of policy changes, but adequate notification and opportunity for input must be provided. Mr. Carling explained that this requirement was clarified in the opinion issued by the NYS Education Department General Counsel in 1999.

Commissioner Adams recalled that NYS Education Commissioner's regulations contain a great deal of content regarding school-based planning, which may apply to schools in certain types of improvement status. She also noted that Title I and the provisions of No Child Left Behind may still govern school-based planning mandates.

Commissioner Adams reported that the regulations that she has reviewed required a number of school-based planning efforts to be completed by 1994. Mr. Carling replied that the regulations he reviewed were last updated in 2000. He stated that he had expected NYS regulations to be much more specific in terms of the elements of school-based planning required to be contained in the policy, but the Board is given discretion in determining the specific policy provisions. He noted that school-based planning is addressed at the District and school level, and the School-Based Planning Teams are quite active and monitored by the Rochester Teachers' Association. Mr. Carling pointed out that the best principals use School-Based Planning Teams to help accomplish school goals, and complaints about new initiatives or changes from a minority of the school community can be countered by noting that they were vetted by the Team.

Commissioner Adams contended that the School-Based Planning Teams may function well for school staff, but not for parents or community members. She noted that the schools in which School-Based Planning Teams function well for all parties (e.g. School No. 15), different governance structures have been established to address key topics (e.g. curriculum and instruction, school climate) and parents are very actively involved. Commissioner Adams asserted that the District generally struggles with parent engagement in school-based planning, but this issue is more of a concern regarding practice than policy. She added that the Family & Parental Involvement policy (1900) can also attend to these concerns.

## **B.** School District Officer and Employee Ethics (2160)

Mr. Carling stated that he would recommend adding a clause to the section regarding prohibiting administrators from having "a romantic, sexual or unprofessional relationship with a subordinate, even if that relationship is consensual". He suggested adding a clause to specify that this prohibition includes administrators having a "romantic, sexual or unprofessional relationship" with a teacher or staff member in the same building. Mr. Carling reported that these situations

have arisen, and administrators have claimed that they did not directly supervise the staff member involved in the relationship, even though that individual worked in the same school building. He pointed out that school administrators are ultimately responsible for exercising oversight of their school building, and claims of favoritism are likely to result in these situations. Mr. Carling emphasized that these types of challenges to the Code of Ethics should not be allowed.

Mr. Carling explained that a Conflict of Interest Review Committee examines situations in which a potential conflict of interest may exist. The policy currently specifies that the General Counsel, Chief of Human Capital Initiatives, and Deputy Superintendent for Administration are to serve on this committee. However, the District does not currently have a Deputy Superintendent for Administration and may not have this position in the future. Mr. Carling recommended that the Auditor General serve on this committee instead, so that there is a representative who reports directly to the Board.

Commissioner Powell pointed out that the Chief Financial Officer was included in the Conflict of Interest Review Committee in the past, so that legal, financial, and personnel issues were covered. Mr. Carling asserted that the major conflicts of interest have involved purchasing, contracts, and hiring – which would be covered by General Counsel (in reviewing all contracts); the Chief of Human Capital Initiatives (in oversight of personnel actions); and the Auditor General (in reviewing District financial transactions). He pointed out that the Committee would then include at least one staff member who is not under the supervision of the Superintendent.

## C. Board Bylaws (2300)

Mr. Carling noted that the current Board Bylaws state that the Board shall announce the general topic under discussion whenever convening in Executive Session, which is in direct contradiction to the training and guidelines provided regarding Open Meetings Law a few weeks ago. He recommended that this provision of the Bylaws be revised.

## D. Videoconferencing (2350)

Mr. Carling observed that the existing policy consistently refers to videoconferencing as "aka 'skype/skyping'", indicating that skyping is the only other applicable terminology. He suggested changing the policy to "e.g. skyping, face time, etc."

# E. Policy Dissemination (2450)

Mr. Carling noted that this policy refers to printing and distributing hardcopy binders of the entire Policy Manual. He recommended that this aspect of the policy be revised to state that updating policies on the District website and providing access to the website is sufficient.

Commissioner Adams added that she would like the policy to require safeguards to ensure that only the most recent versions of policies are available for public access. Mr. Carling replied that he will speak with staff in the Information Management & Technology Department about options for providing this type of safeguard.

Commissioner Powell stated that her concern is to ensure that school principals have received policy updates, even if by electronic receipt. She contended that principals have at times used Board policy as an excuse to avoid following through on issues/concerns raised by parents, claiming that they could not take action because it is prohibited by policy. Commissioner Powell suggested that an email could be sent to all principals with the policy updates attached, and an electronic receipt could be generated when the email has been opened or received. Mr. Carling pointed out that the Superintendent has been distributing a weekly newsletter, *Leadership Links*, to all school principals as a way to share information.

Commissioner Powell observed that it remains incumbent upon parents to check Board policies and confront the principal or bring apparent infractions to the Board's attention when they have been told something different than the provisions contained in the policy. She emphasized that a watchdog is needed to monitor these types of situations. Mr. Carling stated he will discuss this issue with the Senior Cabinet to learn of options available.

<u>Action Item:</u> Mr. Carling will speak with staff in the Information Management & Technology Department about options for ensuring that only the most updated version of a policy is accessible to the public.

Mr. Carling will also speak with Senior Cabinet members about ways to document school principals' receipt of policy updates as a mechanism for upholding accountability.

# F. Membership in School Boards Associations (2530)

Commissioner Powell asserted that District membership in the Office of the Big Five and the Council of Great City Schools should probably be made explicit in this policy, but stated that she does not want to create additional mandates. She acknowledged that additional information is needed of the budget implications of including membership in these two organizations in the policy, and added that she does not want to see membership discontinued in the next major budget crisis. Commissioner Powell pointed out that explicitly including membership in these organizations in the policy would provide some constraint in budget decisions. Mr. Carling offered to check with the Superintendent about the District's current membership in the Council of Great City Schools.

Action Item: Mr. Carling will obtain information about the District's current membership in the Council of Great City Schools, and report back to the Policy Committee.

## IV. Discuss NYSSBA Sample Policies

## A. Admission of Foreign Students (5152.1)

Mr. Carling reported that he discussed the sample policy regarding admission of foreign students with an administrator from one of the school districts in the Adirondacks. This district adopted the NYSSBA sample policy, which refers to foreign students with J1 and F1 visas – although students with a J1 visa are no longer accepted. Mr. Carling noted that this administrator expressed an interest in limiting the policy to students with F1 visas, but these types of visas are only valid for one year and cannot be renewed unless the student goes on to attend college.

Commissioner Powell pointed out that this issue has been discussed at the state level and is currently on the New York State School Boards Association Legislative Agenda. She stated that this will be one of the talking points when school district leaders visit Washington, D.C. to meet with Congressional representatives. Commissioner Powell noted that the F1 visa will always be treated as part of the immigration reform laws, which presents problems for change due to the controversy surrounding immigration issues.

Commissioner Powell stated that RCSD has a formula for non-resident tuition that should apply to foreign exchange students, but some school principals have refused to collect these tuition payments. Mr. Carling commented that he thought that tuition payments were handled by the Finance Department.

Commissioner Powell explained that the Finance Department does not know about the foreign exchange students unless notified by the principal. She stated that she had a foreign exchange student in the past and knows the coordinator of the group (CIEE) that arranges for these exchanges. Commissioner Powell noted that her connection with the group's coordinator has led to her discovery of the schools in which foreign exchange students have been placed and of the failure to collect tuition. Mr. Carling inquired whether other local school districts collect tuition payments from foreign exchange students.

Commissioner Powell pointed out that there is some concern that if RCSD collected tuition payments from foreign exchange students, the group (CIEE) would channel these students to suburban districts. She contended that foreign exchange students are taking seats away from children in the Rochester community, particularly in high-demand schools such as the School of the Arts.

Commissioner Adams inquired about the grade levels of students coming into the District on F1 visas. Mr. Carling replied that these students must be in grades 9-12 to enter the U.S. on this type of visa.

Commissioner Adams questioned the theory that these students are displacing those in the Rochester community because foreign exchange students are entering the District at a grade level above the entry point for Rochester students (i.e. 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade). Commissioner Powell noted that the School of the Arts offers auditions for entry into the school in 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

Commissioner Adams sought confirmation that the majority of foreign exchange students entering RCSD are in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. Carling confirmed this statement.

Commissioner Powell acknowledged that foreign exchange students may not be displacing Rochester students, but the issue of collecting tuition payment remains.

Mr. Carling pointed out that the NYSSBA sample policy states that the District will only admit foreign exchange students if they are paying tuition. He stated that this provision would have to be modified, or the District would be in violation of its own policy.

<u>Action Item:</u> The issue of admitting and collecting tuition payment from foreign exchange students will be discussed further in the next Policy Committee meeting.

## B. Universal PreK policy (4332)

Commissioner Powell expressed concern that the existing PreK policy has been tied to the Goasl for Instructional Programs policy since 1998. When New York State initiated funding for Universal PreK programs, she recalled that a portion of the policy was changed but the change is not reflected in the policy posted on the RCSD website.

Commissioner Adams reported that she discovered a similar instance and brought it to the attention of the Policy Committee, which approved the change that had been proposed. She stated that the policy change was never actually made.

Commissioner Powell suggested examining the Goals for Instructional Programs policy (0210) and the Preschool Education Programs policy (4320.5) to determine whether the versions posted on the District website are the most current.

Action Item: Board staff will review changes that have been made to the Goals for Instructional Programs policy (0210) and the Preschool Education Programs policy (4320.5) to determine whether changes have been made to either of these policies since 2000-01.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02PM.