

## **Policy Committee Meeting- Regular Session – July 15, 2025**

**Committee Members Present:** Committee Chair, Jerry Metcalf, and Member Chaz Heinz

**Others Present:** Joshua Hetfeld, District Administrator

**Not Present:** Kim Johnson, Committee Member

Jerry Metcalf, Committee Chair, called the Policy Committee Meeting of July 15, 2025, to order at 1:05 p.m.

The agenda for this Policy Committee meeting was to complete the review Policy Series 2000 – Programs initially started on July 2, 2025. The agenda also included a final review of *Policy 5780 – Student/Parent Rights*, which was postponed in order to complete the review of complimentary policies within the Policy Series 2000, including *Policy 2240 – Controversial Issues in the Classroom* and *Policy 2416 – Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information*

Most updates reviewed during this meeting were confirmations of minor Administration updates, template selections, formatting corrections, or wording clarifications. Where further discussion was conducted and/or modifications were recommended are captured in the notes below.

The Policy Committee resumed its reviews of Policy Series 2000 with *Policy 2416 – Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information*.

*Policy 2416 – Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information:* There is a recommendation from the Policy Committee to substantially reorder the layout of Policy 2416 for better clarity and readability. The result to was break the Policy down into its two primary concerns: one, Social and Behavioral Surveys, and two, Personal Information and then followed by a section on parental notification and parent's rights to information. Additionally, there was a recommendation to include an additional item as personal and private when conducting student surveys recommended as item I. family possession or ownership of any personal property, including financial assets, business ownership or interests, home security, or firearms.

*Policy 2431 – Interscholastic Athletics:* The Policy Committee is recommending retaining current active Policy 377.1 – Interscholastic Athletics: Co-Curriculum Policy with the approval and adoption of the new Neola policies, as Policy 337.1 addresses specific issues not addressed in any current Neola policy templates including code violations and possible disciplinary actions and includes all co-curriculum activities. It should be referenced in *Policy 2431 – Interscholastic Athletics* and likely included within the Policy Series 5000– Students as a new standalone policy (e.g., 5500.03)

*Policy 2605 – Program Accountability and Evaluation:* The Policy Committee recommends not adopting this policy template, as it is considered redundant *Policy 2700.01 – School Performance and State Accountability Report Cards*.

*Policy 5780 – Student/Parent Rights:* Upon completion of the reviews of the Policy Series 2000, including *Policy 2240 – Controversial Issues in the Classroom* and *Policy 2416 – Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information*, the committee completed their review of *Policy 5780 – Student/Parent Rights*. The delay to finalize the review of *Policy 5780 – Student/Parent Rights* was recommended to ensure all aspects of student confidentiality and parent rights currently covered by active *Policy 333 – Parental Rights in Relation to District Programs/Activities and Student Privacy* were adequately covered by the new Neola policies. There was a discussion regarding *5780 – Student/Parent Rights* considering a template paragraph on students who have reached the age of majority (i.e., 18) may authorize school matters previously handled by their parents including school performance, attendance, and compliance with District guidelines and rules. The Policy Committee recommends removing this paragraph as it does not accurately reflect the current and recommended practice of the district.

The Policy Committee discussed the possible need for an updated policy on the use of Artificial Intelligence tools, both encouraging its appropriate use but also preventing academic dishonesty. The Committee reviewed proposed policies referencing the use of AI tools; *Policy 5505 – Academic Honesty* and *Policy 7540.08 – Artificial Intelligence* but the Committee feels with the growing proliferation of advanced AI tools, including detection proofing algorithms, these policies may benefit from updating. The District Administrator will reach out to Neola and/or other peer districts to see if examples of newer best practice policies are available to consider.

Per the Policy Committee process, the District Administrator will provide copies of the revised Policy Series 2000 policies to the Public Consultant group for their review and comments.

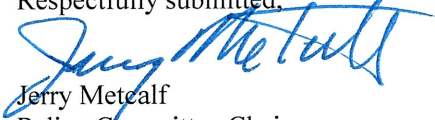
The Policy Committee discussed the need for updated Handbooks (Staff, Employee, and Student/Parent) aligned to the new policies. The Policy Committee has recommended a discussion about the Handbook updates at the next full Board meeting on July 21, 2025.

As a reminder, the Policy Committee is recommending conducting only an Administrative Review of the Policy Series 7000 – Property and Policy Series 8000 – Operations, and to conduct a first reading of Policy Series 2000, 7000, and 8000 at the next full Board meeting on July 21, 2025. Additionally, the Policy Committee is recommending a second reading of all new policies at the full Board meeting on August 18, 2025.

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

The Policy Committee meeting of July 15, 2025, was concluded and adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jerry Metcalf  
Policy Committee Chair  
School Board Director