

**Salem Public Schools  
POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE**

January 17, 2025  
29 Highland Ave., Salem  
9:00 am  
Minutes

**Members In Attendance:** Beth Anne Cornell - Chair, Manny Cruz and Mary Manning

**Member/s Absent:** None

**Others In Attendance:** Superintendent Zrike

**Approval of Minutes of Policy Subcommittee Meeting held on December 20, 2024**

Member Manning made the motion to approve the minutes of the Policy Subcommittee meeting held on December 20, 2024. Member Cruz seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Member Manning voted YES

Member Cruz voted YES

Chair Cornell voted YES

Motion passed unanimously.

**Student Competency Determination for Graduation**

The topics discussed included the ELA component of the competency determination as well as former students as far back as 2001 who could return to request transcripts. Superintendent Zrike added that the schools have hard copies of transcripts and that some students may come back with their transcripts to request for their high school diploma. Superintendent Zrike added that the challenge would be for students who start schooling half-way because they did not not earn enough credits to graduate. However, summer school might be helpful to such students.

The discussion also included the fact that many special education students would still not receive their diploma. They are usually given a certificate of attainment to show that they have met graduation requirements but not competency because their coursework and experience does not meet the standards. State law drives competency requirements. Superintendent Zrike said that performance tasks need to be explored and that this subject should be part of the agenda for the February 3rd School Committee meeting.

Member Cruz informed the members that Governor Healey is working on some guidelines for school districts regarding the student competency determination.

**Review of Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC)**

**Memorandum of Agreement**

Superintendent Zrike said that the City ordinance prohibits the shooting of airguns as indicated by a recent response from them.

Chair Cornell said that the Policy Subcommittee is tasked with reviewing the request. Members of the Policy Subcommittee were in agreement to allow this program to take place at Salem Public Schools. This matter will be brought to the full School Committee.

## **Review of Policies under Fiscal Management and Non-Instructional Operations (Section 3000)**

1. Policy 3104 - Fiscal Year/Budget Deadlines and Schedules  
The Policy Subcommittee reviewed this policy and there were no changes. A comment was made that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) will be reviewing this policy again and adding any relevant legal references.
2. Policy 3105 - Budget Transfers  
There was a discussion on whether to remove the list of cost centers from the policy. A request was made to get the latest list of cost centers from the Business Department. This policy will be listed again on the agenda for the next meeting.
3. Policy 3201 - Funding Proposals and Applications  
The Policy Subcommittee reviewed this policy and there were no changes.
4. Policy 3203 - Gate Receipts and Admissions  
The following sentence, "The superintendent requires deposit of all funds within the next business day" was changed to, "All funds are required to be deposited within two business days." This is a non-substantive change.
5. Policy 3204 - Lease and Rental of School Facilities  
Members requested a list of full-time leases or an annual report of leases. A suggestion was made for an annual review of the policies in the 6000s range. This policy will be listed again on the agenda for the next meeting.
6. Policy 3205 - Disposal of School Properties  
The members discussed the following section of the policy:  
"By its vote, the committee will turn the material over to the Salem City Council for disposal according to procedures set by statutes of the city by-laws. The superintendent will inform the council of the vote and a description of the materials declared surplus."  
Questions were raised on whether there should be a monetary limit of perhaps \$15,000. Suggestions were made to request the City Solicitor to review this matter. Another suggestion made was to eliminate this policy. This policy will be listed again on the agenda for the next meeting.
7. Policy 3206 - Revenues from Tax Sources  
The Policy Subcommittee reviewed this policy and there were no changes.

### **Adjournment**

Member Manning made the motion to adjourn at 10:16 am. Member Cruz seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Member Manning voted YES

Member Cruz voted YES

Chair Cornell voted YES

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

***Shirley Dorai***

Executive Assistant to the School Committee & Superintendent