

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Board Policy Subcommittee Meeting
February 22, 2021

Item C-1-e

The Arlington School Board Policy Subcommittee convened on Monday, February 22, 2021, at 2:07 PM. The meeting was held by electronic communications due to the Covid-19 Pandemic emergency, using Microsoft Teams.

Present were:

Cristina Diaz-Torres, Member
Reid Goldstein, Member

Also present were:

Matt Smith, Special Projects Coordinator
Brian Stockton, Chief of Staff

Prior the meeting, Policy Review Team members Kathleen Bragaw, Department of Teaching and Learning and David Webb, Finance and Operations Department, joined the meeting to be introduced.

Mr. Goldstein called the meeting to order at 2:08 PM.

The subcommittee discussed Board feedback that was provided on the following existing policies as they begin the review process: J-5.4 Leaving School Grounds, J 6-3-6 Prohibited Substance Use, J-6.3.8 No Tobacco Policy, K-7.3 No Smoking Policy, and M-1 Reporting Serious Incidents. Policy J-5.4 Leaving School Grounds was discussed in terms of setting a division-wide procedure to govern when students may leave school grounds. Also discussed where ensuring flexibility for changing instructional models, such as virtual learning, and ensuring that children are comfortable with designated adults who pick them up from school.

The subcommittee then shared feedback on the prohibited substance use and tobacco related policies. Suggestions included clearly identifying prohibited substances and adding more specific guidance on what constitutes a timely response. The group discussed combining the two tobacco related policies, but recognized one applies to students, while the other speaks to tobacco use on school property by any individual. The subcommittee felt that further work was needed on the prohibited substances and the tobacco policies, and it was suggested that a Board liaison be assigned to work with staff as these policies move through the review process. The group also briefly discussed the policy on reporting serious incidents and suggested a few areas of focus for staff to consider.

The subcommittee then confirmed that the newly proposed process for approving and posting Policy Implementation Procedures was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM.

ATTEST:

Melanie Elliott, Clerk
Arlington School Board

Monique O’Grady, Chair
Arlington School Board