



BRAINTREE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Lisa Fiske Heger, Chairperson
Kelly Cobb-Lemire, Vice Chairperson
Karla Psaros, Recording Secretary
Thomas Devin
Matthew Lynch
Kathleen Tuffy
Charles C. Kokoros, Mayor

Policy & Education Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 8, 2022

Subcommittee Members	Ms. Kelly Cobb-Lemire/Mr. Matthew Lynch/Ms. Kathleen Tuffy
Administration	Mr. James Lee, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Nora Vernazza, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Ms. Sara Kauffman, Director of Finance and Operations
Transcriber	Ms. Mary Ann Cuddahy, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

Ms. Tuffy called the meeting to order @ 5:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes: July 18, 2022

Voted Unanimously: Upon a motion by Ms. Cobb-Lemire and seconded by Mr. Lynch to approve the July 18, 2022 minutes as presented. Vote passed 3:0.

3. Consideration of Review: Braintree High School Handbook 2022-2023 SY

Dr. Scully presented the proposed Braintree High School handbook changes for the 2022-2023 school year, sharing the reasoning behind the recommendations. Proposed changes included: 1. Replace Failure Policy from page 17 with an updated Credit Recovery and Outside Course Work Policy; 2. Insert the Class Rank Eligibility Policy immediately after the above note section; 3. Notation Added to Excused Absences on page 42-43; and add a section on BARK. Dr. Scully answered all questions from the subcommittee. Mr. Lee did add that with school already started, this handbook's approval is a priority.

Voted Unanimously: Upon a motion by Ms. Cobb-Lemire and second by Mr. Lynch to move the BHS Handbook proposed changes to the full Committee. Vote passed 3-0.

4. Consideration of Review: Update to Athletic Department Handbook

Mr. Lee shared information presented at the MASS Summer Institute concerning language around liability and supervision of athletic and other extracurricular programs, to be included in handbooks at the high school level. The purpose of the proposed language is to put all participants on notice that bullying, hazing, harassment and discriminatory behavior is not acceptable student behavior, including while engaged in these activities. Mr. Lee provided draft language to the committee for consideration.

Voted Unanimously: Upon a motion by Mr. Lynch and second by Ms. Cobb-Lemire to move to the full Committee the proposed update to Athletic Handbook language as a first reading. Vote passed 3-0.

5. Consideration of Endorsement of the Fair Share Amendment

Ms. Tuffy presented information on the Fair Share Amendment, which is Question 1 on an upcoming Massachusetts voting ballot.

Voted Unanimously: Upon a motion by Ms. Cobb-Lemire and second by Mr. Lynch to move to the full Committee the proposal to endorse the Fair Share Amendment.

6. Communication between Schools, Directors and the School Committee

School Committee members shared a desire to return to rotating meetings through the schools at the July 18th meeting. The logistics of making this change were discussed. Ms. Tuffy raised a concern about School Committee members not knowing what is happening in individual schools or departments due to changes in the way information is shared. Mr. Lee will ask principals to add the School Committee when sending out newsletters on Parent Square. Ms. Vernazza said that the School Committee could be added to the newsletter sent from her office.

7. Next Meeting Date

October 13, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m.

8. Adjourn

Voted Unanimously: Upon a motion by Ms. Cobb-Lemire and seconded by Mr. Lynch to adjourn the meeting. Vote passed 3:0

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved by Subcommittee 10.13.2022

Kathleen Tuffy
Chairperson

JL:mac

Materials Provided:

- Agenda
- July 18, 2022 Minutes
- Proposed Braintree High School Handbook Updates 22/23 SY
- Proposed Athletic Department Handbook Updated Language

