

UPPER PERKIOMEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Education Center
2229 E. Buck Road
Pennsburg, PA 18073

Policy Committee Meeting
November 16, 2020

CHAIR: Raeann Hofkin
President

Ex-Officio: Dr. Kerry Drake,

MEMBERS:

Stephen Cunningham
Peg Pennepacker
Assistant Superintendent – Dr. Andrea Farina
Business Manager – Sandra Kassel
Human Resources Director – Georgiann Fisher

Minutes:

The meeting minutes from the October 19, 2020 meeting were approved by the Policy Committee.

Policy 234 [Pregnant/Parenting and Married Students](#)

The policy was previously [Pregnant Students](#) . This policy was expanded to include parenting students, both mothers and fathers. This policy will be provided to the board for first read on 12/7/20.

Policy 234(AR) [Pregnant/Parenting and Married Students AR](#). One question was raised as to whether or not additional considerations must be given under HIPAA, however, it is covered under FERPA. This policy will be sent to the board for 1st Read on 12/7/20. This AR will be provided to the board for first read on 12/7/20.

Policy 218 [Student Discipline](#) . This is an “umbrella policy” that addresses student discipline. 218.1 and 218.2 also fall under this larger policy. This policy will be provided to the board for first read on 12/7/20.

Policy 218.1 [Weapons](#). This policy falls under the 218 Student Discipline policy and addresses weapons, replica weapons and objects used as a weapon. As per school code, the Board would be required to expel a student for not less than one year, if they were found in violation of this policy. Questions were raised about who is permitted to act on behalf of the board. It is imperative for the board members to have all of the facts surrounding the students infractions, prior to the disciplinary hearing. For instance, a picture of the weapon should be provided. When is the student/family apprised of the option to sign a waiver and the right to have an attorney? The Board will need to determine who will be present for such hearings: the entire Board or members who make up a disciplinary committee, who attends hearings and makes the decision. This policy will be provided to the board for first read on 12/7/21.

Policy 218.2 [Terroristic Threats](#) . This policy also falls under the 218 Student Discipline Policy but specifically addresses terroristic threats. There were no changes made to the content of this policy and it will be provided to the board for first read on 12/7/20.

Policy 219 [Student Complaint Process](#) A question was raised about how well trained staff and faculty members are trained to the formal complaint process. Are there procedures spelled mapped out? The District has many avenues by which students can file a formal complaint. If their concerns do not rise to the level of concerns address in other policies (ie: Title IX), then it would fall under this policy. Policy 219 will be provided to the board for first read on 12/7/20.

Policy 222 [Tobacco/Nicotine](#) . This policy addresses any lit or unlit pipe, cigarette, cigar etc. used to smoke tobacco, marijuana, oil, etc as well as any tobacco, oil, marijuana delivery device, such as a dab pen, vape pen or pipe. The content outlined in this policy is captured in student handbooks and supports are in place for students, such as cessation classes. This would constitute a primary discipline offense at the high school level and the fines are up to \$50.00. Policy 222 will be provided to the board for first read on 12/7/20.

Policy 223 [Use of Bicycles and Motor Vehicles](#). Permission is granted by the building principal when a student wants to ride a bike/motor vehicle to school. The policy will be provided to the board for first read on 12/7/20.

Policy 224 [Care of School Property](#) . There was a question raised about whether or not this policy captures damage to technology, such as a laptop or computer, which the district provides to students. Damage to those devices are captured in the technology policies. Policy 224 will be provided to the board for first red on 12/7/20.

Policy 240 [Contests](#) will be repealed and will be sent to the board on 12/7/20.

Policy 241 [Advanced College Placement](#) will be repealed and will be sent to the board on 12/7/20.

Policy 250 [Student Recruitment \(New\)](#) is new and there were no questions or concerns regarding this policy. It will be sent to the board for first read on 12/7/20.

Policy 255 [Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care \(New\)](#) is a new policy for the District. When children are in foster care placements, the transportation costs can be significant. In cases such as these a “best interest determination” is made to seek the best interest of the child. In cases such as these, the origin district and the foster care district will typically share the cost of transporting to the child. This policy will be sent to the board for first read on 12/7/20.