

First Reading, September 7, 2016

Revised Policies - First Reading: The Board read in their entirety proposed revised policies BCB Board Member Conflict of Interest and BDA Board Officers for the first of two readings. During discussion, Mr. Saulnier stated that it seems that in other towns, this wording is in the Board Member Qualifications policy. Mrs. Small stated that the attorney advised that this wording be inserted into this policy, rather than the qualifications policy, because qualifications are set by law. Mr. Saulnier stated that he also disagrees with the reference to volunteers. Mr. Harmon and Mrs. Serrine stated that Board members should not be daily volunteers as it changes the dynamic within the classroom and puts staff in a difficult position having a Board member in the classroom. Mrs. Small added that School Board members have to sometimes act as jury and if they're in the schools, they sometimes must recuse themselves. Mrs. Pettigrew stated that she understands the reasons why School Board members shouldn't be designated volunteers. Mr. Saulnier stated that he doesn't disagree, but he disagrees with where the wording is being added; he feels it should be added to the Board Member Qualifications policy.

Second Reading, September 21, 2016

Revised Policies - Second Reading: MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Susan Pettigrew, to approve policy BCB Board Member Conflict of Interest with the following amendment: the last line in the fourth paragraph should say "designated volunteer." During discussion, Mr. Saulnier reviewed his concerns about the revisions to the policy. He stated that mentioning volunteers in policy BCB wouldn't pertain to School Board members because volunteers are unpaid. He suggested using language from Attorney Graham for both policy BBBA, School Board Member Qualifications, as well as policy BCB, Conflict of Interest. Ms. Pettigrew stated that the points brought up at the last meeting were valid and she thinks the revision should remain as presented. Mr. Harmon stated that he believes when a Board member spends a significant portion of time in the building, whether paid or not, their presence there is seen as of a School Board member. Mrs. Serrine stated that School Board members should be careful what they engage in and volunteering is no different that substituting because they're engaging with students and staff. Mr. Harmon stated that regardless of which policy the wording is located in, School Board members are required to abide by all policies. Mr. Saulnier stated that Attorney Graham was asked about the conflict of interest wording, not specifically about volunteers. Motion passed with John Harmon, Jacklyn Serrine, and Susan Pettigrew voting in the affirmative and Joseph Saulnier voting in opposition.