

BOE Policy Committee Minutes
February 16, 2012
SHS Classroom 102, 7:00 pm

Present: Gail McDonald, Kevin Bornstein, Frank Todisco, Mark Friese, Alicia Dawe, Nikki Gullickson

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Discussion points:

- Elementary, Middle and High School scenarios for volunteers and chaperones
 - The HS list included: clubs, activities, dances (Winter and Proms), field trips
- From Kevin:
 - The need for less in the policy (in reference to the depth of a few of the policies)
 - Where is the line of non- hireable when hiring certified staff?
- From Gail:
 - What is the goal of the policy? (safety of students as opposed to satisfying legislation)
 - The “Adult Presence...” policy was put in place to address some of the concerns mentioned and doesn’t appear to be effective
- From Mrs. Clark:
 - Discussed policies and procedures for volunteers and chaperones she is aware of
 - Mentioned the idea of a tiered level of volunteers

Starting point for policy:

- Any activity where the adult has exclusive access to students should undergo the same screening as teachers.
- Consider-
 - multiple adults
 - adult volunteers/chaperones not being put in a position to be alone with students

For (or before) the next meeting (March 15):

- Regarding the effectiveness of the teacher screening process:
 - What are the critical “dis-qualifiers” when hiring staff?
 - What do we do with results of background checks for staff (red flags)?
 - Who ultimately evaluates the screening results (for staff hiring)?
 - Look at the law around certification (Ct Statue 17A-101)
- What do other VOLUNTEER organizations that involve kids and adults do to screen their volunteers?
 - Investigate if there are any protocols / procedures/position from the National PTA organization.
 - Investigate any “training programs” that exist