

## **Beekmantown Central School District**

### **Policy Committee**

**Place: Superintendent's Office**

**August 4, 2014**

### **Minutes**

**Present:** Eric Anderson, Board Member  
Debbie Passno, Board Member

**Absent:** Ed Marin, Board Member

**Others:** Daniel Mannix, Superintendent  
Brittany Trybendis, MS Assistant Principal  
Nelly Collazo, HS Principal  
Andre Sapp, HS Counselor  
Sharon Roraback Teacher and Senior Class Advisor

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Eric Anderson.

#### **Attendance Policy 5100**

Assistant Principal Trybendis presented the committee with her final recommendations for changes to the attendance policy. Mrs. Trybendis submitted changes to the first notification letter based on feedback from previous policy meetings. The committee agreed with these changes and recommends the board approve the updated letter. Superintendent Mannix, recommended a change to the notification process to include email, and also text messages if the attendance officer is currently accepting this form of communication from parents. Mrs. Trybendis also included additional supporting documentation on steps the district is taking to help reduce absences in support of this policy. The committee thanked Mrs. Trybendis for all of her hard work on this very important issue. There was some discussion on students requesting classwork before going out on vacation, which is an unexcused absence. Superintendent Mannix plans to discuss this issue at the next Administrative Team Meeting.

#### **Academic Ranking and Recognition Policy (New Policy)**

Superintendent Mannix started the discussion with a summary of the status of this policy, including the major concerns of students. There was quite a bit of discussion on the recommended changes to Honor Roll, Commencement Rank/Recognition, and Commencement Speeches. Much of the discussion focused on Merit vs. Honor Roll and should the cutoff be 90 or 95 for commencement recognition and speeches, as well as when should this policy go into effect. Here are the final recommendations of the committee:

- Drop the Personal Computer Applications ½ credit requirement and increase the Elective or Course Sequence requirement to 3 ½ credits.
- Fix Typo in grading procedure under 2b to divide by 5 and not 3.
- Honor Roll – 95 or above will be High Honor Roll with Distinction, 90 or above is High Honor Roll, and 85 or above is Honor Roll. The High Honor Roll with Distinction is new and the other two are staying the same as in past years.

- Commencement Rank/Recognition – All students with a 90 or above will be recognized, which is what is currently being done.
- Commencement Speeches – There will be 3 speakers. For Graduating Classes 2015-2017, the top GPA student will be offered one of the spots, and the other 2 will be elected by the student body from students with a 90 or above average. For Graduating Class 2018 and beyond, the student body will elect 3 speakers from students with a 90 or above average.

The meeting was adjourned around 7 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Eric Anderson, Committee Chair