

Policy Committee – November 9, 2021

The Policy Committee met on November 9, 2021. The committee continued the discussion from the last meeting regarding a newly required policy. After discussion, the committee recommended the policy be approved for first reading on the November 17th Board agenda. The next committee meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in room 126 at the High School unless a meeting is required prior. Mr. Palen commented that a productive and meaningful discussion took place between committee members, administration and parents regarding Bill #A08378 where suggestions were put forward that resulted in the idea to create a parent/guardian survey. A copy of the survey was provided to the Board. The results from our survey would be shared with our legislators with the hope that it will have a great impact on them to not mandate a COVID-19 vaccination. Mr. Castle commented that the goal is to send out the survey via SchoolMessenger on November 18, 2021, with a December 3rd deadline. One survey is to be completed per household with the opportunity to have both parents (if applicable) submit a response as to whether or not a COVID-19 vaccination should be mandated to attend school. Another question in the survey is whether or not the parent/guardian had or plans to have their child(ren) vaccinated. It will be requested that the parent/guardian's address be included so not to receive duplicated counts. The final question of the survey asks how many children reside in the household. This information will be helpful in showing our legislators the impact this potential mandate will have on families. Mr. Castle indicated that he would ask our legislators to hold a Town Hall where they can hear and get direct feedback from parents. Mr. Palen commented that to get this information out there as the second largest district in the county may provide a greater impact on our legislators as a representation of our community.