

**Wellesley Public Schools  
School Committee Policy Subcommittee Meeting  
January 7 2021  
Via Zoom**

The Open Session meeting of the School Committee Policy Subcommittee convened at approximately 9:15am. Those present included Chair Linda Chow and Secretary Catherine Mirick. A conference call line was open for any members of the public who wished to attend.

The meeting was recorded and will be available to the public upon request.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No member of the public was present who wished to speak.

**DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED UPDATES TO ANY POLICY THAT CONTAINS EQUAL ACCESS LANGUAGE**

The committee discussed that the changes approved to the WPS Equal Access Language at the 12/22/20 School Committee meeting expanded the language to add limited English proficiency and housing status.

The committee reviewed a list of policies that contained either “homeless” or “equal access”.

Policy JFABD - EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN HOMELESS SITUATIONS and Policy JF - ADMISSION OF STUDENTS TO THE WELLESLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS both reference homeless students, but not with regards to equal access so the committee determined that these policies could be revisited at a later time.

The committee then examined policies GBA - EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY, JB - EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, AC - NONDISCRIMINATION, JBA - STUDENT-TO-STUDENT HARASSMENT, JFBB - SCHOOL CHOICE, and JICFB - BULLYING POLICY, PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PLAN. These policies all contained some form of equal access language, but it differed across the policies. Many policies currently reference pregnancy or pregnancy related conditions which are not listed in the updated Equal Access Language.

The committee needed more input from the administration about specific policies and how the Equal Access Language should be used. Ms. Mirick will follow up with Sarah Orlov, Director of Student Services or other appropriate administrators. The hope is that the committee can reconvene to discuss before the school committee meeting on Tuesday 1/15/2021.

Review of the October, 2020 minutes was postponed until the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32am.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Mirick

**DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED**

List of policies with Equal Access 1/7/2021

Policies with "Equal Access" 1/7/2021

Policies with "Homeless" 1/7/2021