

Virtual Governance Sub-Committee Report  
Wednesday, September 16, 2020  
Broadcast from the Media Arts Studio  
454 Broadway, Cambridge, MA

Called for the purpose of discussing the code of ethics of the School Committee. It is anticipated that this meeting will last no longer than 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: Member Rojas, Member Wilson, Member Weinstein

Others Present: Maureen MacFarlane; Doshia Beard

Member Rojas is the Chair. The meeting started at 6:00 pm. Member Rojas provided background on the proposed changes and shared the proposed changes.

Ms. Banks shared her concerns of the language in Cambridge School Committee Code of Ethics. She advocated for more specific language.

Mr. Montero discussed how this is a good first draft, he wants to know what the accountability measures are.

Cici Yu asked if the school from where copied the policy had restorative practices. Member Rojas confirmed it didn't. Cici Yu advocated for starting completely over.

- Ms. Banks discussed how she advocates using the policy and work from there.
- Member Rojas talked about how they copied the framework instead of the specific language.

Mr. Montero discussed how the Committee should have evaluations by the community. Member Rojas talked about how that is past the scope.

Ms. UyHam asked about clarification on the timing of the policy.

Edward Walker talked about accountability.

Member Rojas talked about how the document currently does not have accountability. They are proposing language to how to do this.

Maureen MacFarlane advocated for specific clear language.

Emie Weinstock asked clarifying questions about the language. She talked about how we make the community aware that harm has taken place.

Ms. Banks talked about how this policy is missing an anonymous reporting method.

Jo Quest-Neubert asked what happens when the whole School Committee as a body acts in a way that is unethical. They further asked what if the individual member does not want to engage in restorative practices. They are interested in the idea of censure.

Edward Walker discussed eliminating the three strike policy.

Ms. UyHam advocated for relationship building and how the community can be aware and part of those conversations.

Ms. Preval discussed the tension between transparency and confidentiality.

Dan Monahan asked if the restorative work is public or private.

Ms. Banks reiterated the need for an anonymous method of reporting.

Member Rojas talked about how they will make the edits and have another Sub-Committee to discuss this then the bring this recommendation forward to the whole Committee.

The meeting ended at 7:42 p.m.

Attest:



Allison Daley  
Confidential Secretary to the Office of the School Committee