



**New Haven Board of Education
Governance Committee**

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022
5:30 p.m.**

Minutes

Meeting convened 5:31 pm

Attendees - Typhanie Jackson, Dr. Abie Benitez, Jasmine Oang, Ivelise Velaquez, Dr. Michelle Kelly-Baker

1. Reviewed Minutes from April 4th Meeting

- a. The committee approved the minutes.

2. Old Business

3. New Business

- a. The Committee will be switching to monthly meetings. Ms. Jackson will craft a schedule and send it to the Board for approval.

4. Overview of Bullying forms

- a. Dr. Baker informed the committee that Sexual Harassment and Bullying Policies need to be revised and that there is a lot of concern over bullying forms and the bully policy.
- b. Dr. Baker asked to create a committee.
- c. Ms. Jackson inquired about a timeline for policy updates
 - i. Dr. Benitez asked Dr. Baker to construct a report that summarizes what bullying and harassment policies should look like, and what it looks like at the moment
 1. The committee suggested Dr. Baker form a group with a school principal, a member of language studies, and more so that people can take a look at the
 2. Ms. Jackson will ask CAFE for a copy of the most recent bullying and harassment policies.
 3. Ms. Jackson suggested including the insight of Attorney Michelle Laubin at the next Superintendent's meeting to ensure NHPS creates a fair and equitable process.
- d. Dr. Baker will return to update the Committee at the first meeting of June

5. DELT update

a. Discussion on Race & Equity

- i. Ms. Velazquez contextualized the policy for race and equity. She explained that the district training was based on four pillars:
 1. Students at the Center
 2. Culturally Relevant Leading, Teaching & Learning
 3. Equitable Alignment of Resources, Systems, and Structures
 4. Family and Community Engagement
- ii. Dr. Benitez brought up the concern of proactive literature and suggested that there be a clear process to address the concerns. Ms. Velazquez discussed that staff discussions during development training helped clarify staff behavior. Ms. Velazquez explained that the group decided that development training is productive in contextualizing and teaching without a formal policy. She explained that up-to-date bullying and harassment policies could help create safeguards.
- iii. Ms. Jackson brought up the concerns of labor relations and the need to identify how to address policy violators. Dr. Benitez agreed that there should be a statement or formal document from the Board that reinforces the seriousness of the issue. Ms. Velazquez brought up the concern that having a statement will make it difficult to hold productive conversations.
 1. Dr. Velazquez suggested working on tentative next steps with a small group including Ms. Jackson and Dr. Baker.

b. Statement of Philosophy on Teaching and Learning

- i. The committee will send the Statement of Philosophy on Teaching and Learning to the Board for the first reading at the next meeting.
- ii. Ms. Velazquez explained that the Teaching and Learning committee believes a statement was needed before policies are updated.
- iii. Dr. Benitez asked Ms. Velazquez to put a timeline together for the updates.