Committee Members Present:
Ms. Brenda Sheridan, and Mr. Tom Marshall, School Board
Mr. Neil Slevin, Staff

School Board Present: Ms. Joy Maloney

Staff Present:
Mr. Doug Anderson, Dr. Clark Bowers, Ms. Stefanie LaPolla, Mr. John Lody, Mr. Steven Pickering,
Ms. Anaid Shaver, Dr. Ryan Tyler, Ms. Jennifer Wall

Public Present: Ms. Tanya Kerr

I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 11:14 a.m.

II. Public Comment
Ms. Kerr spoke about Safe Harbor and at-risk or suicidal students bringing drugs to school and then disclosing. A suspension does not help a student and is a deterrent to seeking and receiving help. Ms. Rose thanked the parent for speaking and said that while safe harbor itself is not yet on the table, the committee will continue to work through this issue. It is an issue for the committee, or through the full board. Ms. Maloney expressed concerns related to policy tying an administrator’s hands in terms of response.

III. Minutes – Review and Approval (Amended to specify votes for approval)
Minutes for the April 26, 2017 meeting were approved 2-0-0-1 (Ms. Rose absent).
Minutes for the May 24, 2017 meetings were approved 2-0-0-1 (Ms. Sheridan absent).

IV. Review of Proposed 8240 (Combined §8-35, §8-36, §8-37)
Neil Slevin
The committee discussed the recommended combined policy beginning with the introductory paragraph and progressing through the headings. Mr. Marshall suggested that the last sentence of the opening paragraph be eliminated for brevity.

Under “A. Prohibited Substances,” the request was made to replace bullet points with numbers for added clarity. Discussion also included the need for definitions of types of alcohol or whether it was sufficiently clear as all different types of alcohol were covered in the new policy.

Under “D. Possession of Medication and Prescription or Non-Prescription,” noted exceptions were “Epi-pens” and “inhalers” provided they were part of a student’s health plan. Clarification was given that it would have to be a school approved health plan. Mr. Lody noted state laws also enter into this.

Under “F. Violations of this policy shall result in the discipline outlined in the administrative regulation accompanying this policy.” Brenda Sheridan asked about a combined regulation for the combined policy; although the School Board does not vote on regulations, regulations do add to the Board’s knowledge regarding a major change.

The committee then discussed aspects of Safe Harbor: protection necessary for a student in crisis; making sure that the policy remains enforceable; the discretion of a school’s leader to consider the overall circumstances surrounding a student’s actions when extending discipline to the student and/or seeking help for the student.

Ms. Rose noted that the policy would be brought back to the Discipline Committee to further discuss substantive issues.

V. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.