Committee Members Present: Ms. Debbie Rose, Ms. Brenda Sheridan, Ms. Joy Maloney

School Board: Mr. Eric Hornberger

Staff: Virginia C. Patterson, Ph.D., Ms. Suzanne Fitzgerald

Audience Attendees: Mr. Derek Farrey, Mrs. Nereida Gonzalez-Sales, Mr. Shahrazad Kablan, Ms. Janet Lewis, Mr. Michael Pierson, Mr. David Shaffer, Ms. Tonya Smith, Dr. Ryan Tyler

Public Present: None

I. Public Comment: None

II. Approval of minutes. Minutes for the Discipline Committee meeting of August 22, 2018 were approved 2-0-0-1 without additions or revisions. Ms. Maloney was absent for the vote.

III. Continued Discussion and Refinement of Policy §8-48, Student Activities (Proposed Policy 8350) to include proposed deletion of §8-29, Exclusion from Extracurricular Activities, §8-46, Middle and High School Dances, §8-47, Student Council Association, and §8-60 Noncurriculum Related Student Groups, with incorporation into Proposed Policy 8350.

1. Proposed Policy 8350, Student Activities was referred back to the Discipline Committee during the full School Board meeting of September 11, 2018 meeting for further consideration.

2. Tonight’s Discipline Committee meeting examined the version or Proposed Policy 8350 presented to the full School Board as well as two versions from staff. The first version by staff included an appeals process; the second version by staff was written having a principal’s decision as final and not appealable. Dr. Patterson expanded on the varied aspects factoring into the staff proposal for these possible changes:
   
   • Within the proposed policy that included an appeal, staff was striving to clarify student activities and the appeals process. This requires a distinction between VHSL activities and those activities that do not fall under VHSL.
• Of note, VHSL is the primary sanctioning board for interscholastic athletic and non-athletic competitions – not discipline.

• The scope of an appeals process within this policy could bring forth many types of appeals that are currently covered under School Board Policies and/or are handled within the LCPS formalized complaints process (Policy 8-10).

• Additionally, LCPS also has rules, guidelines and sanctions for student activities in existence

3. The committee then examined dividing Proposed Policy 8350 into Co-Curricular Activities and Non-Curricular Activities. Irrespective of the governing rules for specific groups, all students should be held to the same standards without establishing a higher standard for one group versus another - striking a balance for all student groups. Observations by committee members, staff in attendance, and Mr. Hornberger, examined the structure of the policy and included points noted below.

• Co-curricular activities are an extension of the curriculum and should be treated similarly in terms of discipline expectations for our students if the activities are LCPS sanctioned/LCPS structured.

• VHSL is currently specified in this policy; however, VHSL does not have specific authority over discipline policy and could be addressed elsewhere.

• Handbooks and rules for students need to be clear and brought into alignment with the provisions of the School Board and with the knowledge of the School Board and the public. These guidelines would include additional rights and responsibilities pertinent to that specific group.

• Raise the bar for all our students and make it clear and accessible to the public.

4. The Committee concluded the meeting with discussion surrounding the distinction between co-curricular and non-curricular activities, the surrounding participating agreements for these groups, and the possibility of the placement of discipline sanctions in another policy apart from student activities.

**ACTION**: The Discipline Committee will bring Proposed Policy 8350 back to the Discipline Committee for discussion at the next meeting on 10-24-18.

IV. **Adjournment**: The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m. The next Open/Public meeting of the Discipline Committee is Wednesday, October 24, 2018 in Room 100A beginning at 5:30 p.m.