A policy committee meeting was held by the School Reform Commission on September 7, 2017 in conference room 1080 of the School District of Philadelphia Education Center, 440 North Broad Street.

The meeting was convened at 10:30 a.m. by Commissioner McGinley.

Commissioner McGinley made an opening statement acknowledging Joyce Wilkerson, Chairwoman of the School Reform Commission was unable to attend the meeting but has reviewed the proposed policies and provided her feedback prior to the meeting. Commissioner McGinley began identifying the policies on the agenda and how the meeting would proceed. He noted Policy 233 and Policy 818 will be discussed at a later date. He indicated that copies of the policies are available at the meeting and in advance of the meeting on the SRC website. Commissioner McGinley explained that the meeting would begin with staff presentations of specific changes proposed to the policies that were on the agenda. He also reminded everyone no formal action is taken on policies at Policy Committee meetings.

Commissioner McGinley invited Naomi Wyatt, Chief of Staff, to make comments.

Naomi Wyatt thanked Commissioner McGinley and the members of the District’s leadership team for their work on revising and updating the policies on the agenda. Ms. Wyatt welcomed children and families back to school and encouraged children to be an Attendance Hero.

Miles Shore, Interim General Counsel, noted that the District was making an audio recording of the policy committee meeting.

Members present: Commissioner McGinley (Chair of the Policy Committee), Naomi Wyatt (designee for the Superintendent) – 2

Members Absent: Chair Wilkerson – 1

Commissioner McGinley introduced Cheryl Logan, Chief of Academic Supports, who provided an overview of the changes to Policy 105.2. Ms. Logan also provided an overview of Policies 114 and 115, which are new Policies.

Commissioner McGinley introduced Karyn Lynch, Chief of Student Support Services, who provided an overview of the changes to Policies 204 and 209.

Commissioner McGinley introduced Karen Gokay, Deputy for Labor Relations, who provided an overview of the changes to Policies 307 and 309.

Commissioner McGinley opened the floor to the public for presentation of statements.

Tomika Anglin commented on Policy 309 and stated Relay is not an accredited institution. She further inquired about a way to access policies not listed on the website. Ms. Anglin also commented on Policy 105.2 requesting to know if there is any protocol in place for parents, who may request exceptions from instruction, to know in advance, what is happening in the schools.

Lisa Haver commented on Policy 307 inquiring specifically about Relay and contract schools. She asked for clarification on how policy will be applied in schools that house a combination of District staff and personnel employed directly by the school itself. Ms. Haver also inquired about Policy 204 and requested to know when a student is considered truant.
Lynda Rubin commented on Policy 204. She suggested there be a “fast track” through the process for children/families that experience repeat truancy concerns as opposed to be placed at the end of the list.

Commissioner McGinley stated that the Committee recommends that Policies 105.2, 114, 115, 204, 207, 209, 227, 237, 307 and 309 move forward to the SRC.

Commissioner McGinley asked Naomi Wyatt, Chief of Staff to review the list of policies on the agenda for the next Policy Committee meeting.

Ms. Wyatt stated the list of policies up for discussion at the next meeting would be Policies 105, 107, 127, 137, 137.1, 138, 210, 216, 255, 316, 619, 622, 626, 707, 718 and 810.2. She also stated materials for the October 5th meeting will be posted publically on September 28th.

Commissioner McGinley announced that the next Policy Committee meeting of the School Reform Commission is Thursday, October 5, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:42 a.m.

Christopher McGinley, Chair
Policy Committee