

**CITY OF PORTSMOUTH  
LEGAL DEPARTMENT  
MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** OCTOBER 28, 2015  
**TO:** PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD  
**FROM:** POLICY COMMITTEE  
**RE:** OCTOBER 28, 2015 MEETING MINUTES

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**Members Present:** Leslie Stevens, Ann Walker, Steve Zadravec and Kathleen Dwyer

**Others Present:** George Shea, Mary Lyons, Phil Davis and Paulette Rouse

**Policies Considered:**

**Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students (JBAB)**

Principals Lyons and Davis were invited to the meeting to review this policy and to discuss what issues, if any, this presents in their buildings. Phil indicated that there are self-identified transgender students at the Middle School and Mary indicated that there are several at the High School. She reported that students at the High School are very advanced in acceptance of transgendered peers, probably much more so than the general parent population. She said that she has only ever received two telephone calls with parent questions and both were receptive of the information that she provided them regarding transgendered students.

Both the High School and the Middle School have undertaken efforts to educate students on this subject. The Middle School is in the process of developing an age appropriate presentation on acceptance. The High School has already had a presentation to staff by the GLBT student group regarding the sensitivity in the use of pronouns.

There was general discussion regarding how to provide access to restrooms, locker rooms and participation in sports. There are also times when students are broken into

groups for instruction by gender such as chorus practice at the Middle School and various health classes.

The draft policies reviewed by the committee include provisions regarding participation in interscholastic sports. NHIAA rules were reviewed, which were stricter than either policy that was reviewed by the Committee with respect to required documentation.

The Committee decided to hold off sending this policy forward at this time. It decided to get student input as was done with the sustainability policy first. It was also recommended that a presentation be made to the School Board similar to the one that was done for the staff.

### **Video and Audio Surveillance on School Property (EEAA)**

The Committee had reviewed this policy at a previous meeting and it was considered by the School Board for first reading. School Board member had suggested edits, among other things, to make it clear concerning the use of surveillance videos. The Committee considered his edits and included them in an updated draft as the policy goes before the Board for second reading.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 17, 2015 9:15 at Central Office**