

DATE: November 1, 2022

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Jan Sawyer, Chair, Policy Review Committee
Trustee Marcia Hole, Policy Review Committee
Trustee Saadiq Sumar, Policy Review Committee

SUBJECT: Policy Review Committee 2022-2023 Work Plan

ORIGINATOR: Karen Mills, Director Board and Superintendent Relations

RESOURCE STAFF: Kelsey Duebel, Nancy Petersen, Wanas Radwan

REFERENCE: [Trustees' Handbook Section 6.1 – Board Committee Protocols Board Policy CH.BP – Framework for Policy Development and Review](#)

ISSUE

The Policy Review Committee is presenting its 2022-2023 work plan to the Board of Trustees (the Board) for approval.

BACKGROUND

The Policy Review Committee is responsible for assisting the Board by ensuring that policies submitted for Board approval are developed and reviewed in accordance with Board Policy CH.BP Framework for Policy Development and Review.

The Policy Review Committee discussed policy development and review required for the upcoming term on September 7, 2022. From this discussion, the committee established an annual plan for policy development and review to be undertaken in 2022-2023, while also accommodating the need for any emergent policy work.

RELATED FACTS

The work plan addresses the following:

1. **New policy development:** Emerging contexts and existing requirements to align with the *Education Act* support the identification of two areas for policy development work in 2022-2023. The work to develop these policies is continued from the 2021-2022 Work Plan.
 - **Dispute resolution policy:** To align with Section 41 of the *Education Act*, a new dispute resolution policy will be developed. This policy will be developed with consideration to the review of Board Policy AB.BP Appeals.
 - **School renaming policy:** On September 7, 2021, the previous Board unanimously passed a motion to form a special committee to make recommendations on how to conduct a Division-wide review of all school names as well as help inform a renaming policy for Edmonton Public Schools. Board Policy EA.BP Infrastructure Planning Principles, which includes direction on

naming schools, may be revised based on committee recommendations.

2. **Policy review and revision:** The Board is responsible for ensuring all Division policies are in alignment with provincial legislation and this work will continue to be a priority for the coming year.

- ***Education Act and anti-racism alignment:*** These policies will be updated in alignment with the *Education Act* and/or Board Policy HAAB.BP Anti-racism and Equity. Where relevant, these policies will also undergo further review to align with current practice and processes. The following policy review work is planned in 2022-2023:
 - AB.BP Appeals
 - EA.BP Infrastructure Planning Principles
 - FA.BP Human Resources Framework
 - HC.BP Student Accommodation
 - HEC.BP Student Admission to the Division
- ***School calendar and scheduling:*** A number of Board policies related to calendar and scheduling will be reviewed to potentially combine and streamline similar Board policies. In addition, updates related to Board consideration of diverse days of significance in the approval of the school year calendar will be explored. Potential policies for review include:
 - GCA.BP Approval of the School Year Calendar (2016)
 - GD.BP Instructional Time (2018)
 - GE.BP Organization for Instruction (2012)
- ***Student behaviour and conduct:*** In addition to the above listed policies, Section 33 of the *Education Act* requires an annual review of the code of conduct for students. To comply with this, Board Policy HG.BP Student Behaviour and Conduct will also be reviewed and updated, if required.

3. **Longer Term Policy Work:** In light of emerging trends, issues and evidence, opportunities for environmental scanning and potential policy change have been identified. This work is long term and responsive to shifting contexts including alignment with the 2022-26 Division Strategic Plan and any updates to federal and provincial direction. The work plan includes initial steps to support the review of the following policies:

- EO.BP Environment
- HA.BP Inclusive Education
- HFA.BP Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

RECOMMENDATION

That the Policy Review Committee 2022-2023 work plan be approved.

OPTIONS

Based on the information provided in this report, the following options are considered most appropriate:

1. Approve the Policy Review Committee 2022-2023 work plan as written.
2. Provide feedback and request changes be made to the Policy Review Committee 2022-2023 work plan.

CONSIDERATIONS and ANALYSIS

The work of the Policy Review Committee reflects the Committee's best efforts to fulfill the expectation to complete policy work required for alignment to provincial legislation and the Board's commitment to reviewing and revising existing Board policies. The review and revision of these policies will be informed by stakeholder engagement and will involve a multi-year commitment.

NEXT STEPS

Policy review activities will proceed, in alignment with the approved work plan.

ATTACHMENTS and APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I Policy Review Committee 2022-2023 Work Plan

JS:wr

Policy Review Committee 2022-2023 Work Plan

PURPOSE

- The Policy Review Committee is responsible for assisting the Board in reviewing Board policy by ensuring that Board policies submitted for Board approval are developed and reviewed in accordance with Board Policy CH.BP Framework for Policy Development and Review.
- The main objective of the work plan is to recommend an annual plan for policy development and review to be undertaken in 2022-2023, while also accommodating the need for any emergent reviews.

ACTIVITIES

The Policy Review Committee Work Plan 2022-2023 includes the following:

| New Policy Development | |
|------------------------|---|
| Policy | Summary |
| Dispute Resolution | <i>Education Act</i> requirement; continuation from 2021-2022 Work Plan |
| School Renaming | In accordance with the September 7, 2021, Board motion and to align with Board Policy HAAB.BP Anti-racism and Equity; continuation from 2021-2022 Work Plan |

| Policy Review and Revision | |
|---|---|
| Policy | Summary |
| AB.BP Appeals | Align with <i>Education Act</i> , current practice, and dispute resolution policy development; continuation from 2021-2022 Work Plan |
| EA.BP Infrastructure Planning Principles | Align with school renaming policy development and HAAB.BP Anti-racism and Equity |
| FA.BP Human Resources Framework | Align with the Division's 2021-2022 Anti-racism Action Plan and to align with Board Policy HAAB.BP Anti-racism and Equity |
| CGA.BP Approval of the School Year Calendar GD.BP Instructional Time GE.BP Organization for Instruction FBD.BP Designated Holidays | Streamline and add clarity to calendar and scheduling policies, including clarity on guiding values and diverse days of significance; align with Board Policy HAAB.BP Anti-racism and Equity; continuation from 2021-2022 Work Plan |

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| HC.BP Student Accommodation | Review the two policies to reflect the current enrollment realities and ensure alignment with the <i>Education Act</i> ; continuation from 2021-2022 Work Plan |
| HEC.BP Student Admission to the Division | |
| HG.BP Student Behaviour and Conduct | Annual review required under the <i>Education Act</i> ; continuation from 2021-2022 Work Plan |

| Longer Term Policy Work | |
|---|---|
| Policy | Summary |
| EO.BP Environment | Environmental scanning and exploration of opportunities for policy change in light of emerging trends, issues, and evidence. This work is long-term and responsive to shifting contexts including alignment with Division priorities and any updates to federal and provincial direction. |
| HA.BP Inclusive Education | |
| HFA.BP Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity | |

SUPPORTING ACTIONS/INFORMATION REQUESTED FROM ADMINISTRATION

- The committee may conduct public engagement in support of many of the policies outlined in this work plan, including consideration to: the development of a new dispute resolution policy and a new school renaming policy and the review of calendar and scheduling policies, and the annual review of Board Policy HG.BP Student Behaviour and Conduct. These engagement activities will require support from Strategic Division Supports, Infrastructure Planning and Division Support Services. However the timing and extent of this engagement for each of these policy areas has yet to be determined.

REQUESTED RESOURCES

- More information about potential required funds will become available as the policy work unfolds. The committee will present a project plan and budget for the Board's approval prior to undertaking any work that would require use of Board of Trustee funds.