

West Hartford Public School District

Agenda Item: Motion by Lib Brassil Spinella, Bruce Putterman, and Terry Schmitt to Accept Revised Policy 6430--**First Reading**

Meeting Date: February 29, 2012

From: Lib Brassil Spinella, Bruce Putterman, and Terry Schmitt

Through: Karen L. List, Superintendent of Schools

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education accept as a First Reading the following policy which was revised by the Board Policy Subcommittee:

6430 Pupil Services

Note: Words in (*italics*) within parentheses are being removed from the current policy and words in **Bold** are being added to the current policy.

Background:

Since these revisions constitute substantial change, they are being brought to the Board as a First Reading.

The Board is in the process of reviewing and revising, where appropriate, all of its policies, section by section. Board Policy Books are divided into 8 sections or series: 1000s Community Relations, 2000s Administration, 3000s Business, 4000s Personnel, 5000s Students, 6000s Instruction, 7000s Board Operations, 8000s Bylaws.

The Board has appointed a sub-committee comprised of Lib Brassil Spinella, Bruce Putterman, and Terry Schmitt to meet regularly with Kimberly Boneham, Assistant Corporation Counsel, and Tom Moore, Assistant Superintendent for Administration. The Policy Subcommittee has spent many hours considering its own recommendations, input from Corporation Counsel and the administration, and reviewing certain policies from other districts.

As reviewed and revised policies are approved by the full Board, they are put on the West Hartford Public Schools website.

Lib Brassil Spinella, Bruce Putterman, Terry Schmitt, Tom Moore, Eileen Howley, and Kimberly Boneham will be available to answer any questions.

**Agenda Item:
V.D.**

WEST HARTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

(POLICY 6430)

(Instruction)

Pupil Services

The department of pupil services shall be maintained and operated to help provide for the growth and development of all pupils in accordance with the individual's needs and abilities. Through a coordinated program of the several services within the department, together with other community agencies, an effort shall be made to provide ways for knowing individual children better and to promote experiences which will assist pupils in becoming responsible individuals.

These services shall offer a combination of related skills, techniques, processes, and attitudes that contribute directly to changing the behavior of some children and to the educational growth of many. The department of pupil services shall provide teaching, resource, guidance and consultant services to students and staff.

The department of pupil services will provide home and hospital instruction, and transportation of the physically handicapped.

Policy adopted: July 11, 1988)

(POLICY 6431)

(Instruction)

Psychological Services

Psychological consultants are available in each school to work with teachers, students and parents for the better understanding of pupils' needs and the development of programs based on these needs. They shall be available for:

- Psychological evaluation*
- Observation and student of classroom behavior*
- Interpretation of test data*
- Liaison with physicians, psychiatrists, clinics and other agencies and the interpretation of their reports to the school*
- Arrangements for special class or school placement for pupils where the need is indicated*
- Supportive counseling for pupils and consultation with parents*
- Consultation service to secondary school counselors*

Policy adopted: May 16, 1988)

(Instruction

Consulting Psychiatrist

A consulting psychiatrist shall be made available on a part-time basis for professional advice and assistance in providing:

- Psychiatric evaluation as part of the total screening process for children with emotional problems*
- Initial psychiatric interviews, for evaluative purposes, with parents of children with emotional problems*
- Assistance in referral and follow-up procedures with outside agencies when long-term therapy is needed*
- Participation in case conferences in schools when the needs of individual children require psychiatric interpretation for the overall planning of a program to meet their needs.*

Policy adopted: May 16, 1988)

POLICY 6430

Instruction

Pupil Services

The Department of Pupil Services shall develop and implement programs, procedures, and practices that provide an integrated and inclusive learning community that supports the academic achievement and the social, emotional, and behavioral development of all pupils. Through a continuum of special education programs and practices in collaboration with general education, the Pupil Services Department will provide instructional/related services and resources to prepare each student to realize their potential in accordance with their individual needs and abilities.

These instructional and related services and resources include: diagnostic evaluation, specialized instruction, psychological and social work services, physical and occupational therapy, speech/language therapy, guidance/school counseling, nursing/health services, homebound/hospital instruction, and transportation services. The department also provides consultations for students, staff, and families in the areas including: autism, assistive/adaptive technology, psychiatric and behavioral therapy, and networking with outside agencies and service providers.

Policies 6430, 6431 and 6432 adopted 1988.

Consolidated into Revised Policy 6430: