

**GUILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE
PUBLIC FORUM
Monday, July 24, 2006
Guilford High School, Guilford, Connecticut**

Board Members Present: Bill Bloss, Cindy Cartier, Barbara Dudley, Naomi Migliacci, Alan Meyers, Louis Iorio, Kathy Nolan, Keith Bishop, Ted Zuse

Administrators Present: Dr. Thomas Forcella, Superintendent, Dr. Anne Keene, Assistant Superintendent, Nancy Bishop, Principal, and Jim Saisa, Director of Operations

1. Call to Order

Cindy Cartier called the meeting/public forum to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approximately seven (7) members of the community attended the Public Forum. Ms. Cartier began the Forum with a discussion of the Wellness Policy including its contents and status post June and July meetings to revise various portions including allowance of cultural and curriculum related events. Principal Bishop then presented an overview of the drafting of the Policy including the state and federal mandates. Ms. Cartier then advised of her efforts to meet with and reach out to the community to seek input regarding the Policy including the present forum.

The concerns of the community members centered on parental involvement and assuring that the children, particularly at the elementary level, are being provided with a balanced environment utilizing food where appropriate including curricular and cultural related events. The parents supported eliminating food provided to students other than by their individual caregivers in events such as birthdays or snacks. This has been the sentiment of the community as advised by Ms. Cartier.

Additional discussion centered on improving quality and content of the food service program. Mr. Saisa discussed improvements made since he assumed responsibility last year and upcoming plans for this year. More discussion involved safety issues concerning food and choices that could be provided by the food service program.

Ms. Cartier announced that the Policy Committee will continue to review and revise the Policy taking into consideration concerns presented by the community and administration. The goal as mandated by the Federal Government is to have the Wellness Policy in place by the beginning of the school year. To that end, the Policy will be presented for a vote at the next board meeting on August 21, 2006.

Community members were encouraged to contact Ms. Cartier with questions and concerns regarding the Policy.

The next Policy Committee meeting to be scheduled in August based upon schedules of members and Dr. Keene. Committee will continue with review Section 4000 as well as Wellness Policy.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Cartier