
**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026
NHS NORTH BOARD ROOM**

A meeting of the Policy Committee was held at NHS North on Tuesday, October 20, 2026.
Ms. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Ms. Raymond, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Lamphier

Also Present: Mr. O'Rourke and Dr. Vicente

Also Present: Members of the Public, Channel 22 Videographer

Policy ACE - Procedural Safeguards: Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Handicap/Disability

- Policy ACE procedural safeguards and nondiscrimination on the basis of disability had legal references reviewed and updated.

Ms. Raymond moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve Policy ACE - Procedural Safeguards: Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Handicap/Disability and move to the full board. Motion passes 3-0.

Policy IHBA - Programs for Pupils with Disabilities

- IHBA, programs for pupils with disabilities, was absent from district policy and is required by law
- Discussion clarified differences between IDEA IEPs and Section 504 plans, annual safeguards, and services through age 22 on an individualized basis.

Ms. Raymond moved, seconded by Ms. Lamphier, to approve Policy IHBA - Programs for Pupils with Disabilities and move to the full board. Motion passes 3-0.

Policy IHBA-R1 - Programs for Pupils with Disabilities Section 504 – Notice of Parent & Student Rights

- IHBA-R1, the Section 504 notice of parental and student rights, was discussed as a legally required companion policy. Families may receive safeguards electronically or on paper, including in different languages; the committee voted to send it to the full board.
- Additional questions were asked to differentiate an IEP from a 504 plan. Dr. Vicente and Mr. O'Rourke explained the multitude of individualized circumstances for a 504 plan including short-term injuries, long-term accommodations, and school-developed medical plans.

Ms. Raymond moved, seconded by Ms. Lamphier, to approve Policy IHBA-R1 - Programs for Pupils with Disabilities Section 504 – Notice of Parent & Student Rights and move to the full board. Motion passes 3-0.

Policy IHBAA - Criteria for Special Education Evaluations

- IHBAA, criteria for special education evaluations, received three legal-reference updates without content changes.
- Board members questioned the evaluation process. Dr. Vicente provided detailed information of the process.
- The district reported that it has not turned away an independent educational evaluation request during Dr. Vicente's tenure, but request and approval data were not available at the meeting.

Ms. Raymond moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve Policy IHBAA - Criteria for Special Education Evaluations and move to the full board. Motion passes 3-0.

Policy IHBAB - Special Education Evaluations

- IHBAB, special education evaluations, is recommended but not legally required. The committee discussed current test versions, observations, privacy safeguards, evaluation copies for families, and students transferring from other states.

Ms. Raymond moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve Policy IHBAB - Special Education Evaluations and move to the full board. Motion passes 3-0.

Future Plans

- Next month's meeting will include policies ACD and JICD, in addition to other policies as needed.

Ms. Raymond moved, seconded by Ms. Lamphier, to adjourn at 6:53 pm. Motion passes 3-0.

Submitted by Tara C. Kinsella