

EDUCATION/COMMUNITY/POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT – 8/15/13

The August ECP Committee Meeting was held this past Monday, August 12th.

There was one action item on the agenda which was amended Board Policy #5110 – Student Attendance. This policy was revised to reflect the current practice of accepting either verbal or written notification from the parent regarding a student's absence. In addition, a deadline of 3 days was established for submitting the verbal or the written excuse notification. Verbal excuses are recorded when received.

In addition, a few information items were presented to the committee, the first of which was a status report regarding the efforts of the advertising revenue campaign. Thus far, 70% of the available calendar ads, three Crawford Stadium ads, including sponsorship of the media booth, three baseball field ads, two NPHS signs, and one three-year MVP Package have been sold. The proceeds from these ads will be approximately \$28,000.

Another information item was the Attendance Improvement Plan. This plan has been developed by a committee representing different stakeholder groups. One significant change resulting from this plan is that at the secondary level a phone call would be placed by 10:00 AM regarding students who are absent from school and for whom no notification has been received from the parent/guardian. This is already taking place in the elementary schools. Other aspects of the plan include being proactive and really working with parents to ensure students come to school and increasing communication with parents regarding absenteeism and truancy.

The committee also received an update regarding the Comprehensive Literacy Plan. Implementing this plan is a requirement of the Keystones to Opportunity Grant. The foundation of the plan was the state's Comprehensive Literacy Plan. NPSD's Comprehensive Literacy Plan articulates what literacy and learning mean to our district and established literacy instruction and student achievement as a priority. This plan promotes literacy education from birth to grade 12.

Guidance counselor staffing at the elementary level was also discussed. Data relative to this topic will be collected and then reviewed at a later meeting.

The next ECP Committee meeting will be Monday, September 12th at 6:30 p.m.