

**ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Policy Review and Development Committee Meeting**

**June 20, 2018**

**MINUTES**

**Attending:**

Commissioners – Commissioners Funchess, Powell, and Sheppard

District Staff – Karl Kristoff, General Counsel

Commissioner Funchess convened a Community Forum regarding proposed revision of the *Visitors to Schools Policy* (1240) at 6:00PM.

Commissioner Funchess explained the purpose of the Community Forum, requesting that parents and community members discuss the type of school environment and approach toward visitors that they would like to see in the future.

The main comments received in the Community Forum with regard to the *Visitors to Schools Policy* were:

- School staff need to get to know parents and develop relationships with them as part of building a school community and improving school climate.
  - » Have parents greeted at the school by the Parent Liaison, who will escort them to their child’s classroom.
- Schools should have an “open door policy” to allow parents to observe their children in their natural environment, rather than under controlled and planned circumstances.
  - » Some parents are not able to provide 24-hour advance notice in scheduling classroom visits because of their work and personal schedule.
  - » There was **no** support for requiring 24-hour advance notice of parents’ visits to their child’s classroom.
  - » Distinguish between scheduled, planned meetings and classroom visits
  - » Schools should create certain times for parents to interact with teachers on a regular basis (e.g., break time, end of day).
- The preamble to the policy should be improved to explain the need and purpose of the policy.

- School staff should not require parents to present a photo ID *every* time they visit the school.
  - » One suggestion was to have the District issue parent badges/IDs:
    - Reinforce the fact that parents are members of the school community, rather than “visitors”; and
    - To keep the wrong people out of the school.
  - » Staff who are not attached to the school should also sign in
  - » Question was raised about undocumented aliens who do not have a photo ID

Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.