



School Board Briefing/Proposed Action Report

Informational (no action required by Board) **Action Report** (Board will be required to take action)

DATE: August 24, 2016
FROM: Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent
LEAD STAFF: Andrew Medina, Ethics Officer; ajmedina@seattleschools.org

I. TITLE

Amending Board Policy No. 5251, Ethics

For Introduction: September 21, 2016

For Action: October 12, 2016

II. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY

The School Board is the governing body with the authority to adopt, amend, and repeal policies for the District. Board action is therefore required.

III. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

There is no fiscal impact for this policy revision.

Expenditure: One-time Annual Other Source

IV. POLICY IMPLICATION

If approved, this motion would amend Policy No. 5251, Ethics, as reflected in the attached policy revision.

V. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the School Board amend Policy No. 5251, Ethics, as attached to the Board Action Report.

VI. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was discussed at the Audit & Finance Committee meeting on August 18, 2016, and September 13, 2016. On September 13, 2016, the Committee reviewed the motion and moved the item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for approval.

VII. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The current Ethics Policy does not require an annual report from the Ethics Officer. Previously, when the City of Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission served as the District's Ethics Officer, an annual report was required by the contract between the District and the City. When the District terminated the contract with the City, the annual reporting requirement was eliminated.

The proposed amendments would ensure that the School Board receives an annual ethics report, regardless of who is serving as the District's Ethics Officer.

VIII. STATEMENT OF ISSUE

Whether or not to amend Policy No. 5251, Ethics.

IX. ALTERNATIVES

Do not amend Policy No. 5251, Ethics. This is not recommended as an annual reporting requirement will ensure that the Board receives periodic updates on the ethical culture of the District.

X. RESEARCH AND DATA SOURCES / BENCHMARKS

N/A

XI. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Upon approval of this motion, Policy No. 5251, Ethics will be amended and the new version of the policy will be posted online.

XII. ATTACHMENTS

- Policy No. 5251 – clean (for approval)
- Policy No. 5251 – redline (for reference)