

## **Memorandum**

**TO:** ACPS School Board Policy Subcommittee  
**FROM:** Matt Smith, Policy Services Consultant  
**DATE:** February 18, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** Proposed Policy Revisions

Staff are proposing revisions to the following policies:

- BBFA – Conflict of Interests and Disclosure of Economic Interests
- BDDH/BDDH-R – Public Participation in School Board meetings
- IGAI - Character Education

These policies have been revised to align with the ACPS Policy Style Guide, aligned with the VSBA model policy and the Code of Virginia, and reviewed by the Equity Audit Team, ACPS staff members, and the Senior Leadership Team

These policies are proposed for information at various dates this school year.

### **Revision Summaries**

#### **BBFA - Conflict of Interests and Disclosure of Economic Interests**

- Added a clause that requires Board members to promptly inform the Board Chair of personal interest or other changes that will require disclosure with the next filing.

#### **BDDH - Public Participation at School Board Meetings (also KD)**

#### **BDDH-R - Procedures for Public Communications with the School Board (also KD-R)**

- Update requested by the School Board Clerk
- Updated and clarified speaker deadlines
- Clarified translation options
- Set a one-hour maximum time for public comments
- Removed the requirement of submitting 13 written copies of comments
- Relocated the Board Belief Statement from the Regulation to the Policy
- Clarified public comments at Board meetings vs work sessions
- Added breadcrumbs to KK - School Visitors noting that speakers should not disrupt the orderly conduct of the meeting and a provision for submitting comments in writing if they repeatedly fail to comply with this provision.

#### **IGAI - Character Education**

- Standard changes

- Added a Board Belief Statement
- Added a paragraph connecting the seal of the Commonwealth with ACPS's ongoing work to eliminate racism.
- Policy updated to reflect the 2019 enactment of Va. Code § 22.1-207.2:1 by [HB 2107](#).
  - **Anti-bullying or suicide prevention materials;** parental right to review. Each school board shall develop and implement policies that ensure that parents have the right to review any audio-visual materials that contain graphic sexual or violent content used in any anti-bullying or suicide prevention program. Such policies shall require that prior to using any such material, the parent of the child participating in such a program shall be provided written notice of his right to review the material and his right to excuse his child from participating in the part of such program utilizing such material.
- Legal References updated to reflect enactment of Va. Code § 22.1-23.3 by HB 145/[SB 161](#) (2020).
  - **Public elementary and secondary schools; treatment of transgender students; policies.** Requires the Department of Education to develop and make available to each school board, no later than December 31, 2020, model policies concerning the treatment of transgender students in public elementary and secondary schools that address common issues regarding transgender students in accordance with evidence-based best practices and include information, guidance, procedures, and standards relating to (i) compliance with applicable nondiscrimination laws; (ii) maintenance of a safe and supportive learning environment free from discrimination and harassment for all students; (iii) prevention of and response to bullying and harassment; (iv) maintenance of student records; (v) identification of students; (vi) protection of student privacy and the confidentiality of sensitive information; (vii) enforcement of sex-based dress codes; and (viii) student participation in sex-specific school activities and events, excluding athletics, and use of school facilities. The bill requires each school board to adopt, no later than the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year, policies that are consistent with but may be more comprehensive than such model policies developed by the Department of Education. This bill is identical to HB 145.