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Date: February 29, 2016

Durham Public Schools
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT SERVICES WORK SESSION
PRECIS

Agenda Item: *Board Policy 4301–Code of Student Conduct-Revised*

Staff Liaison Present: Dr. Deborah Pitman Phone: (919) 560-2554
Elizabeth Shearer (919) 287-4193

Community Liaison Present: Superior Court Judge Elaine O’Neal

Main Points:

- The Superintendent’s Code of Student Conduct Task Force presents recommendations to the board for revision of *Policy 4301–Code of Student Conduct*.
- The recommendations are based on feedback stemming from the February 2016 Operational Services and Policy Work Session during which the board requested that the Task Force consider additional revisions to the policy. The Task Force reconvened and drafted revisions in support of the board’s feedback.
- As a culmination of the work of the Task Force, revision of *Policy 4301–Code of Student Conduct* is presented for discussion and subsequent board approval.

Fiscal Implications:

- None

<u>Purpose</u>			
Information <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action <input type="checkbox"/>	Consent <input type="checkbox"/>
Reviewed by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Finance ___	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attorney <u>N.R.</u>	



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Policy 4301 Code of Student Conduct Final Recommendations











Academic and Student Services Work Session February 29, 2016

Elaine O'Neal
Superior Court Judge
Task Force Co-Chair

Elizabeth Shearer, M.Ed.
Executive Director
Task Force Co-Chair

Dr. Debbie Pitman
Assistant Superintendent

4301 Level I A: No Suspensions - Add Attendance

Level 1	Elementary (K-5)	Secondary (6-12)
Plagiarism (copying)		
Electronic Devices (cell phones, iPads, 2-way radios, etc.)		
Student Dress Code		
Minor Disruptive Behavior		
Attendance		



BOE Considerations...

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Rule I.A-2 Laser pointers - Proposed

- Laser pointers and other electronic devices that could damage eyesight or otherwise cause physical harm are particularly dangerous and are specifically covered by this policy. If a student uses a laser pointer in a way that reasonably could or does cause physical harm, the laser pointer may be considered a “weapon” Depending on the circumstances, such items may also constitute “weapons” under Rule III-3, and the student may be disciplined accordingly.

Rule I.A-3 Student Dress Code - Current

- Policy 4301 Rule I.A-3 (c) “The principal may make reasonable accommodations to the policy based upon a student’s **religious** beliefs or **medical** condition.

Policy 4301 Rule I.A-3 Student Dress Code-Proposed

- Subsection c (**Delete/move** final statement to create **new** Subsection e)
- **Add** Subsection e “The principal may make reasonable accommodations to this rule for **religious, cultural, educational, or medical** reasons, so long as the clothing in question is not prohibited under section a(1) through a(5) of this rule:
 1. Depict profanity, vulgarity, obscenity, or violence;
 2. Promote use or abuse of tobacco, drugs, or alcohol;
 3. Create a threat to the health or safety of the student or others;
 4. Are prohibited under the Gangs and Gang Activities Policy (III-8)
 5. Are reasonably likely to create a substantial and material disruption to the educational process or to the operation of the school.

Next Steps: February – Summer 2016

- **Community Engagement Work Team**
 - Identify key community entities to message regarding new BOE Policies and supporting documents
 - Members are prepared to do shared presentations starting early summer

- **Spring 2017** Task Force reconvenes to review outcomes

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Discussion